EXHIBIT 1

1

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - X

MURASHEA "MIKE" BOVELL,

Plaintiff,

-against-

Civil Action No: 7:15-CV-08594-CS

CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK,
COMMISSIONER TERRANCE RAYNOR,
INDIVIDUALLY AND IN HIS OFFICIAL
CAPACITY, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
RICHARD BURKE, INDIVIDUALLY AND IN
HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY, CAPTAIN
MICHAEL GOLDMAN, INDIVIDUALLY AND
IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY,
SERGEANT ROBERT WUTTKE, AND
LIEUTENANT PAUL NAWROCKI, INDIVIDUALLY
AND IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY,

Defendants.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - X

HELD AT: Office of Corporation Counsel 2 Roosevelt Square Mount Vernon, New York 10550 October 21, 2016

10:00 a.m.

Examination before Trial of the Plaintiff, MURASHEA BOVELL, pursuant to Court Order, held at the above time and place before a Notary Public of the State of New York.

J & L REPORTING SERVICE
of Westchester, Inc.
50 Main Street, Suite 1000
White Plains, New York 10606
(914) 682-1888
Lisa Dobbo, Reporter

2

A P P E A R A N C E S:

THE BELLANTONI LAW FIRM, PLLC Attorneys for the Plaintiff Office & Post Office Address 2 Overhill Road, Suite 400 Scarsdale, New York 10583 BY: AMY BELLANTONI, ESQUIRE

COUGHLIN & GERHART, LLP
Attorneys for the Defendants
Office & Post Office Address
99 Corporate Drive
Binghamton, New York 13904
BY: PAUL J. SWEENEY, ESQUIRE

A L S O P R E S E N T:

Lieutenant Marcel J. Olifiers Alec Francis

3

AGREED, by and between the attorneys for the respective parties herein, that the sealing and filing of the within deposition be waived; that such deposition may be signed and sworn to before any officer authorized to administer an oath, with the same force and effect as if signed and sworn to before the officer before whom said deposition is taken.

IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED, that all objections, except as to form, are reserved to the time of trial.

| 1 | M. BOVELL 4 |
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| 2 | MURASHEA BOVELL, stating his |
| 3 | business address as 1 Roosevelt |
| 4 | Square, Mount Vernon, New York |
| 5 | 10550, having been duly sworn |
| 6 | by Notary Public, Lisa Dobbo, |
| 7 | testified as follows: |
| 8 | MR. SWEENEY: Let's mark these. |
| 9 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 10 | A, Code of Conduct, was marked for |
| 11 | Identification.) |
| 12 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 13 | B, MV-5 Officers Report, was marked |
| 14 | for Identification.) |
| 15 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 16 | C, MV-5 Officers Report, was marked |
| 17 | for Identification.) |
| 18 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 19 | D, Letter 1-9-13, was marked for |
| 20 | Identification.) |
| 21 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 22 | E, MV-5 Officers Report, was marked |
| 23 | for Identification.) |
| 24 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 25 | F, Email 3-31-14, was marked for |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 5 |
|----|---------------------------------------|
| 2 | Identification.) |
| 3 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 4 | G, MV-5 Officers Report, was marked |
| 5 | for Identification.) |
| 6 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 7 | H, Harassment Complaint 5-6-14, was |
| 8 | marked for Identification.) |
| 9 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 10 | I, Confidential Harassment Complaint |
| 11 | Form, was marked for Identification.) |
| 12 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 13 | J, Personnel Performance Evaluation, |
| 14 | was marked for Identification.) |
| 15 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 16 | K, Harassment Complaint 5-6-14, was |
| 17 | marked for Identification.) |
| 18 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 19 | L, MV-5 Officers Report, was marked |
| 20 | for Identification.) |
| 21 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 22 | M, Text, was marked for |
| 23 | Identification.) |
| 24 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 25 | N, Charge of Discrimination, was |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 6 |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 2 | marked for Identification.) |
| 3 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 4 | O, Discrimination Complaint 1-15-15, |
| 5 | was marked for Identification.) |
| 6 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 7 | P, Handwritten Note, was marked for |
| 8 | Identification.) |
| 9 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 10 | Q, Letter 8-12-15, was marked for |
| 11 | Identification.) |
| 12 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 13 | R, Walmart Receipt, was marked for |
| 14 | Identification.) |
| 15 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 16 | S, Computer Screen Shot, was marked |
| 17 | for Identification.) |
| 18 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 19 | T, Photocopy of photograph, was |
| 20 | marked for Identification.) |
| 21 | EXAMINATION BY MR. SWEENEY: |
| 22 | Q. Please state your full name for |
| 23 | the record. |
| 24 | A. Murashea Bovell. |
| 25 | Q. Please state your business |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 7 |
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| 2 | address for the record. |
| 3 | A. 2 Roosevelt Square, Mount |
| 4 | Vernon, New York 10550. |
| 5 | Q. Officer Bovell. I'm Paul |
| 6 | Sweeney. I'm with the law firm of Coughlin |
| 7 | & Gerhart. We represent the City of Mount |
| 8 | Vernon, Captain Goldman, Sergeant Wuttke and |
| 9 | Lieutenant Nawrocki in a certain lawsuit |
| 10 | that you brought against those defendants. |
| 11 | I'm going to ask you a series of |
| 12 | questions understood oath. If, at any time, |
| 13 | you don't understand my question, I'd be |
| 14 | happy to rephrase it, ask it again, slow |
| 15 | down or whatever. For our purposes, if you |
| 16 | answer the question the way I asked it, I'm |
| 17 | going to assume that you understood the |
| 18 | question; is that a fair assumption? |
| l 9 | THE WITNESS: Repeat that |
| 20 | again, please. |
| 21 | Q. If you answer the question the |
| 22 | way I ask it, I'm going to assume that you |
| 23 | understood the question; is that |
| 24 | THE WITNESS: I don't |
| 25 | understand that, no. |
| | |

M. BOVELL 8 1 I'm going to ask you questions. 2 Q. 3 Α. Okay. 4 0. I'm giving you an opportunity 5 to tell me that you don't understand my question or you want me to rephrase my 6 question or whatever. 7 8 Α. Okav. 9 Ο. If you do that, I will 10 certainly do my best to rephrase the 11 question so you can understand it. 12 Α. Okav. The second point of that would 13 Q. 14 be if you answer the question the way I ask 15 it, is it a fair assumption that you 16 understood the question? If I don't understand the 17 Α. 18 question, I'll say that. 19 Your attorney is seated besides Q. 20 you. One of the rules that we work under is 21 if you need to speak with her, you can 22 certainly do so but after you answer the 23 question. In other words, you can't confer before -- if a question is posed, you can't 24 25 take a break and consult with your attorney.

| 1 | M. BOVELL 9 |
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| 2 | THE WITNESS: If the question |
| 3 | is ambiguous, I can't turn to my |
| 4 | attorney for clarity? |
| 5 | Q. Well, if the question's |
| 6 | ambiguous, I'm sure your attorney will |
| 7 | object to the form of |
| 8 | MR. SWEENEY: Actually, let's |
| 9 | go off the record. |
| 10 | (Whereupon, a discussion was |
| 11 | held off the record.) |
| 12 | Q. If I ask you a question, your |
| 13 | attorney may or may not make an objection. |
| 14 | THE WITNESS: Okay, but she has |
| 15 | the opportunity to object? |
| 16 | Q. Yes, but in terms of taking a |
| 17 | break, the normal rule is you can consult |
| 1.8 | with your attorney after you've answered the |
| 19 | question. |
| 20 | A. Okay. |
| 21 | Q. I think the court reporter |
| 22 | already reminded you about keeping your |
| 23 | voice up because she's taking down |
| 24 | everything you're saying and we got some |
| 25 | difficult sound conditions in this room to |
| l | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 10 |
|----|---|
| 2 | work with. |
| 3 | A. I'm not feeling too well so |
| 4 | I'll try my best. |
| 5 | Q. If you need to take a break, |
| 6 | you can certainly do that at anytime you |
| 7 | need to. |
| 8 | Are you on any medications today that |
| 9 | would inhibit your ability to testify? |
| 10 | A. Medications right now, no. I |
| 11 | took Advil earlier, but no. |
| 12 | Q. Is that over-the-counter Advil? |
| 13 | A. That's over-the-counter Advil. |
| 14 | Q. Are you well enough to |
| 15 | continue? |
| 16 | A. Right now I am. |
| 17 | Q. What is your date of birth, |
| 18 | Officer Bovell? |
| 19 | A. My date of birth is |
| 20 | # Example 1 |
| 21 | Q. Without giving me any street |
| 22 | address, in your Complaint it's listed that |
| 23 | you live in the north or northern counties. |
| 24 | What county do you live in? |
| 25 | A. Dutchess County. |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 11 |
|----|--|
| 2 | Q. In the Complaint it lists that |
| 3 | you were born originally in the Caribbean. |
| 4 | What country were you born in? |
| 5 | A. Jamaica. |
| 6 | Q. Are you currently married or |
| 7 | single? |
| 8 | A. I'm married. |
| 9 | Q. What is your wife's name? |
| 10 | THE WITNESS: Is that |
| 11 | necessary? |
| 12 | MR. SWEENEY: I think it's a |
| 13 | fair question. |
| 14 | A. It's Duvania, D-U-V-A-N-I-A |
| 15 | Bovell. |
| 16 | Q. Without getting into the names |
| 17 | of any children, do you have children of the |
| 18 | marriage? |
| 19 | A. Yes. |
| 20 | Q. What ages and sexes are they? |
| 21 | A. We have a beautiful son. His |
| 22 | age is eight. |
| 23 | Q. Anyone else besides your son? |
| 24 | A. No. |
| 25 | Q. Any other children of any other |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 12 |
|-----|---------------------------------------|
| 2 | prior relationship? |
| 3 | A. No. |
| 4 | Q. Is your wife employed outside |
| 5 | of the home? |
| 6 | THE WITNESS: Right now? |
| 7 | MR. SWEENEY: Yes. |
| 8 | A. Yes. |
| 9 | Q. What type of employment or |
| 10 | capacity is she employed? |
| 11 | THE WITNESS: I don't |
| 12 | understand. |
| 13 | Q. Does she have a job someplace? |
| 14 | A. Yes. |
| 15 | Q. What type of job does she have? |
| 16 | A. I don't know the details of her |
| 17 | job but she does administrative work. |
| 1.8 | Q. Administrative work? |
| 19 | A. Yes. |
| 20 | Q. Have you ever testified in a |
| 21 | proceeding before today? |
| 22 | THE WITNESS: As a police |
| 23 | officer or |
| 24 | MR. SWEENEY: Well, let me ask |
| 25 | it both ways; perhaps as a police |
| - 1 | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 13 |
|----|---|
| 2 | officer in a criminal context. |
| 3 | A. Yes, that's part of my duties. |
| 4 | Q. I assume from time to time you |
| 5 | testified in various prosecutions or before |
| 6 | the Grand Jury, for example? |
| 7 | A. Have I testified in front of a |
| 8 | Grand Jury, yes, I have. |
| 9 | Q. As part of criminal court |
| 10 | trials? |
| 11 | A. As part of my job, yes. |
| 12 | Q. Taking out the criminal |
| 13 | testimony that you may have provided or |
| 14 | testimony in a criminal matter, have you |
| 15 | testified before in a civil lawsuit? |
| 16 | THE WITNESS: Civil lawsuit? |
| 17 | MR. SWEENEY: Like this one. |
| 18 | THE WITNESS: As far as |
| 19 | capacity as a police officer? |
| 20 | MR. SWEENEY: In any capacity |
| 21 | as either a plaintiff or a defendant. |
| 22 | A. Yes, capacity as a police |
| 23 | officer I have. |
| 24 | Q. What type of lawsuit or what |
| 25 | was that lawsuit about? |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 14 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | A. I don't remember details. |
| 3 | Q. Was the city a defendant in |
| 4 | that lawsuit? |
| 5 | A. I believe so, yes. |
| 6 | Q. And you were testifying as a |
| 7 | witness? |
| 8 | A. I'm not sure if I was a witness |
| 9 | or not. I'm not sure what position I was. |
| 10 | I don't remember. |
| L1 | Q. How long ago was that |
| 1.2 | testimony? |
| 13 | A. This was I believe in 2014 |
| L 4 | before I got injured on September of 2014, |
| L5 | yes. |
| 16 | Q. Do you know the name of the |
| 17 | person that brought the lawsuit, the |
| L 8 | plaintiff? |
| L9 | A. I don't remember. I don't |
| 20 | remember. |
| 21 | Q. Was it a male or female? |
| 22 | A. I know it was a male. |
| 23 | Q. Besides that one testimony |
| 24 | maybe 2014 that you can't remember, have you |
| 2.5 | testified in any other civil lawsuit? |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 15 |
|----|---|
| 2 | A. Civil, I don't remember right |
| 3 | now. I don't remember. |
| 4 | Q. Is there anything that would |
| 5 | refresh your memory as to if you did |
| 6 | testify? |
| 7 | A. If there is perhaps some |
| 8 | documentation but I don't remember other |
| 9 | than that particular, I don't remember any |
| 10 | civil lawsuits. |
| 11 | Q. Do you know if that case that |
| 12 | you referenced in 2014, do you know if that |
| 13 | was settled or that went to a jury trial? |
| 14 | A. I believe it was settled. |
| 15 | Q. Was that settled recently or in |
| 16 | 2014? |
| 17 | A. It was settled when I was out |
| 18 | injured. |
| 19 | Q. When you were out injured? |
| 20 | A. I believe so, yes. |
| 21 | Q. So, sometime during the last |
| 22 | two years? |
| 23 | A. Between 2014 and now. |
| 24 | Q. Have you ever, and I don't mean |
| 25 | criminal proceedings, but in terms of a |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 16 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | civil proceeding like your lawsuit, have you |
| 3 | ever been a party, meaning a plaintiff or a |
| 4 | defendant in any other civil lawsuit? |
| 5 | A. Not that I remember or aware |
| 6 | of. |
| 7 | Q. Could you briefly tell me about |
| 8 | your educational background? |
| 9 | THE WITNESS: As far as what |
| 10 | exactly? |
| 11 | Q. Did you go to high school or |
| 12 | the equivalent? |
| 1.3 | A. Oh, yeah, I went to high school |
| 14 | and to college. |
| 15 | Q. Where did you attend high |
| L 6 | school? |
| 17 | A. I went to high school in |
| 18 | Kingston, Jamaica. |
| 19 | Q. What year did you graduate? |
| 20 | A. I don't remember. |
| 21 | Q. I think you mentioned you may |
| 22 | have gone to college after that? |
| 23 | A. Yes, I went to college. |
| 24 | Q. What college did you attend? |
| 25 | A. I went to Bronx Community |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 17 |
|----|--|
| 2 | College and Mercy College. |
| 3 | Q. Did you receive any degrees |
| 4 | from those schools? |
| 5 | A. Yes. |
| 6 | Q. What degrees have you received? |
| 7 | A. I received an associates from |
| 8 | Bronx Community College and a bachelors from |
| 9 | Mercy College. |
| 10 | Q. What specialization or |
| 11 | concentration was the associates in? |
| 12 | A. Computer programming, commuter |
| 13 | science. |
| 14 | Q. How about the degree from |
| 15 | Mercy, was that the same specialization? |
| 16 | A. That was information of |
| 17 | technology, yes. |
| 18 | Q. Information of technology. |
| 19 | When did you graduate from Mercy? |
| 20 | A. I believe 2015. |
| 21 | Q. Was that while you were out on |
| 22 | 207? |
| 23 | A. Yes, because between 2014, |
| 24 | 2015. |
| 25 | Q. When did you start attending |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 18 |
|-----|---|
| 2 | Mercy, what year was that? |
| 3 | A. I don't remember; approximately |
| 4 | 2012, 2011, approximately. |
| 5 | Q. From 2012 to 2014 mid year, I |
| 6 | think you were working as a police officer |
| 7 | for Mount Vernon? |
| 8 | A. Yes. |
| 9 | Q. So, you would attend school |
| 10 | after work? |
| 11 | A. No, I did it part-time. It |
| 12 | varies but mostly on line. |
| 13 | Q. A lot of it on line? |
| 14 | A. Most of it on line but whenever |
| 15 | I could make it to classes, a class that I |
| 16 | felt was going to be difficult I would try |
| 17 | to make it on campus. |
| 18 | Q. As I understand it, you started |
| 19 | employment here with Mount Vernon Police on |
| 20 | or about June 30th, 1997; does that sound |
| 21 | right? |
| 22 | THE WITNESS: Pardon me? |
| 23 | Q. Did you start working here June |
| 2 4 | 30th, 1997? |
| 25 | THE WITNESS: At Mount Vernon |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 19 |
|----|--|
| 2 | Police Department? |
| 3 | MR. SWEENEY: Yes. |
| 4 | A. No. |
| 5 | Q. When did you start working? |
| 6 | A. Around 2007. |
| 7 | Q. Did you work anyplace else |
| 8 | before working for Mount Vernon in 2007? |
| 9 | A. Yes. |
| 10 | Q. Where else did you work at? |
| 11 | A. I worked for BOCES and also I |
| 12 | worked for AT&T Cingular Wireless and I |
| 13 | worked for RD Weis, a flooring company in |
| 14 | Port Chester as accounts payable. |
| 15 | Q. The first job that you held, |
| 16 | was that with BOCES? |
| 17 | THE WITNESS: First job I held? |
| 18 | MR. SWEENEY: Let me rephrase |
| 19 | the question. |
| 20 | Q. You graduate from high school |
| 21 | in Jamaica. At some point in time you came |
| 22 | to the states from Jamaica; is that right? |
| 23 | A. Yes. |
| 24 | Q. The first job that you had here |
| 25 | in the states was with whom? |
| | |

| : | |
|----|---|
| 1 | M. BOVELL 20 |
| 2 | A. With Caldors. I worked at |
| 3 | Caldors. |
| 4 | Q. Caldors is a store? |
| 5 | A. Yes, it's a store that used to |
| 6 | be located in Pelham. |
| 7 | Q. What did you do for Caldors? |
| 8 | A. I was doing sales, I believe. |
| 9 | I |
| 10 | MR. SWEENEY: I'm sorry. |
| 11 | A. I worked in the electronics |
| 12 | department. I did various types cashier, |
| 13 | sales in the automotive department, stuff |
| 14 | like that. |
| 15 | Q. After Caldors, did you work for |
| 16 | somebody else? |
| 17 | A. Yes, yes, I did. I don't |
| 18 | remember who oh, actually, it just came |
| 19 | to mind. I worked for a group home. |
| 20 | Q. A group home? |
| 21 | A. Yes, dietary. I worked in the |
| 22 | kitchen. |
| 23 | Q. Where was that group home |
| 24 | located? |
| 25 | A. In New Rochelle. |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 21 |
|----|--|
| 2 | Q. After that group home, did you |
| 3 | work with someone else? |
| 4 | A. Yes, I did. |
| 5 | THE WITNESS: Let me see if I |
| 6 | can remember. |
| 7 | A. I worked for, I believe Home |
| 8 | Depot actually, I'm sorry. I worked for |
| 9 | a rebate processing company, something along |
| 10 | the line in New Rochelle. I believe it's |
| 11 | called TCA. They process rebates and then I |
| 12 | believe Home Depot came along the line. I |
| 13 | worked overnight stocking. |
| 14 | Q. After Home Depot? |
| 15 | A. I believe after Home Depot it |
| 16 | was RD Weis, the flooring company I spoke to |
| 17 | you about in Port Chester. |
| 18 | Q. Then after RD Weis? |
| 19 | A. I believe I worked for AT&T. |
| 20 | Q. What did you do for AT&T? |
| 21 | A. I forgot my title. I was an |
| 22 | ANS, advanced network associate. |
| 23 | Q. More technology than sales? |
| 24 | A. That was trouble shooting, |
| 25 | people would have PDA devices; smart phones |
| | |

22 M. BOVELL 1 They would call for trouble 2 or laptops. shooting so they would call and I'd walk 3 them through the process of resolving the 4 issue. Some of these customers were 5 contractor of businesses or individual 6 7 customers. After AT&T, is that BOCES? 0. 8 9 Α. After AT&T, I believe it was BOCES. 10 Where was the BOCES located? 11 Q. In Westchester; Valhalla, I 12 believe. They have offices in Valhalla, 13 14 Lower Hudson Regional Information Center. They work with BOCES where we were 15 responsible for the IT solutions, the ones 16 at the school district like Byram Hills, 17 Mount Vernon, New Rochelle. We dealt with 18 the management of their networks, computer 19 20 networks. Then after BOCES it sounds like 21 Q. you started with the police department? 22 After BOCES I left there to 23 24 become a police officer. Did you attend the police 25 Q.

| 1 | M. BOVELL 23 |
|----|--|
| 2 | academy in the same year that you joined, |
| 3 | 2007? |
| 4 | THE WITNESS: In 2007? Pardon |
| 5 | me, say it again. |
| 6 | MR. SWEENEY: I'll ask it a |
| 7 | different way. |
| 8 | Q. When did you attend the police |
| 9 | academy? |
| 10 | A. In 2007 when I joined the |
| 11 | police department. |
| 12 | Q. I'm going to go through your |
| 13 | Complaint in a little bit more detail but if |
| 14 | you can tell me what assignments you've had |
| 15 | at the police department from the beginning |
| 16 | until now, like for example, patrol division |
| 17 | or detective division. |
| 18 | A. Okay. |
| 19 | Q. What assignments have you had? |
| 20 | THE WITNESS: Are you asking me |
| 21 | that now? |
| 22 | MR. SWEENEY: After. |
| 23 | THE WITNESS: After I graduated |
| 24 | the academy? |
| 25 | MR. SWEENEY: Yes. |
| | |

M. BOVELL 24 1 Α. After graduating the academy 2 3 after approximately five months I was assigned to patrol, patrol. I worked in 4 5 patrol as a police officer. I worked in that position for some time. While in that 6 7 position I worked in various community 8 units. I forgot the name of the units but 9 they would focus on, you know, community 10 relations with police officers. Prior to 11 that in a short time I was in impact unit. 12 I forgot the name of the unit but during my 13 course of probation I was in the uniform 14 impact unit. 15 What do impact officers do? Ο. 16 Well, they focus on quality of 17 life issues, you know, as far as violation of city ordinances, you know, crimes in 18 19 specific areas, you know, uniforms so you have police presence. 20

Q. As I understand it in the Complaint, you worked in that position I assume from 2007 to 2010?

THE WITNESS: In what position exactly?

25

21

22

23

24

| 1 | M. BOVELL 25 |
|----|--|
| 2 | MR. SWEENEY: In patrol. |
| 3 | A. In patrol, yes, from 2007 until |
| 4 | to the position that I just mentioned and to |
| 5 | approximately 2010. |
| 6 | Q. Then in 2010 you went to the |
| 7 | detective division? |
| 8 | A. In 2010 in 2009 I was |
| 9 | actually joining that department. I was |
| 10 | asked by Sergeant Fisher at the time to join |
| 11 | the narcotics unit and now Detective |
| 12 | Antonini but I declined and then in 2000 |
| 13 | they said I well, in 2010 the opportunity |
| 14 | came again and I then accepted the offer. |
| 15 | Q. So, the opportunity came again |
| 16 | sometime in 2010? |
| 17 | A. Approximately 2010, yes. |
| 18 | Q. And you accepted? |
| 19 | A. I accepted, yes. |
| 20 | Q. You were there, I think January |
| 21 | of 2011? |
| 22 | A. Approximately, I believe. |
| 23 | Q. Then you went back to patrol? |
| 24 | A. In 2010 I was there for some |
| 25 | time, for a few months, and then I went back |
| ı | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 26 |
|----|--|
| 2 | to patrol. |
| 3 | Q. You were in patrol until |
| 4 | December or so of 2011? |
| 5 | A. From 2000 towards the end of |
| 6 | 2011, approximately, yes. |
| 7 | Q. What assignments did you have |
| 8 | in patrol when you went back during the 2011 |
| 9 | time? |
| 10 | A. 2011, I don't remember but I |
| 11 | was in patrol. I don't remember. |
| 12 | Q. Did you have any field training |
| 13 | officer responsibilities at that time? |
| 14 | THE WITNESS: In 2000 |
| 15 | MR. SWEENEY: '11. |
| 16 | A. 2011, I don't remember. I |
| 17 | don't remember 2011. I know I had I was |
| 18 | certified in field training officers at some |
| 19 | point in my patrol career but I don't |
| 20 | remember when exactly. |
| 21 | Q. There came a point where you |
| 22 | were again assigned going back to the |
| 23 | detective division? |
| 24 | A. Yes, an opportunity arised and |
| 25 | they made me an offer to go back to the |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 27 |
|----|--|
| 2 | narcotics division and I did. |
| 3 | Q. And that was at the end of |
| 4 | 2011? |
| 5 | A. Approximately. |
| 6 | Q. Until sometime in 2013 or '14? |
| 7 | THE WITNESS: Until? |
| 8 | MR. SWEENEY: Yes. |
| 9 | THE WITNESS: Was I accepted |
| 10 | back when I went back |
| 11 | Q. How long did you serve in the |
| 12 | detective division the second time around? |
| 13 | A. Second time, approximately 24 |
| 14 | months. |
| 15 | Q. Do you know when you left the |
| 16 | detective division the second time? |
| 17 | THE WITNESS: When I left the |
| 18 | second what |
| 19 | Q. When did your assignment in the |
| 20 | detective division end? |
| 21 | A. After I accepted in 2011, |
| 22 | approximately 2011 I was continuous until |
| 23 | the end of 2013. |
| 24 | Q. Then you went back to patrol |
| 25 | after that? |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 28 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | A. Yes, I requested to go back to |
| 3 | patrol. |
| 4 | Q. You served in patrol from |
| 5 | sometime the end of 2013 or so until you got |
| 6 | injured? |
| 7 | A. I served in patrol I |
| 8 | requested out of narcotics towards the end |
| 9 | of 2013, approximately. I was reassigned in |
| 10 | 2014, January of 2014 back to patrol and in |
| 11 | September 2014 I injured my I slipped and |
| 12 | injured my right knee while effecting an |
| 13 | arrest. |
| 14 | Q. That was in July of 2014? |
| 15 | THE WITNESS: Of what exactly? |
| 16 | Q. When did you get injured? |
| 17 | A. Oh, in September of 2014, |
| 18 | approximately. |
| 19 | Q. You've remained out of work on |
| 20 | a 207-c status since that time? |
| 21 | A. I've been out on on-duty injury |
| 22 | since September of 2014. |
| 23 | Q. Is there a difference between |
| 24 | on-duty injury and 207-c? |
| 2.5 | MS. BELLANTONI: Object to the |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 29 |
|----|--|
| 2 | form. You can answer if you |
| 3 | understand. |
| 4 | MR. SWEENEY: If you know. |
| 5 | Q. Is there a difference between |
| 6 | on-duty injury and 207-c? |
| 7 | A. I don't know. |
| 8 | Q. When you went to the detective |
| 9 | bureau for the first time in 2010, who was |
| 10 | your immediate sergeant that you reported to |
| 11 | at that time? |
| 12 | A. I don't remember the first one. |
| 13 | In 2010 the first one we've had a few of |
| 14 | them. |
| 15 | Q. What sergeants do you remember |
| 16 | reporting to in 2010, 2011 timeframe in the |
| 17 | detective bureau? |
| 18 | THE WITNESS: Before Sergeant |
| 19 | Fegan? |
| 20 | Q. This is your first time. |
| 21 | A. First time sergeants that I've |
| 22 | experienced |
| 23 | Q. In the detective bureau. |
| 24 | A. Before Sergeant Fegan, Sergeant |
| 25 | McHeaton, Sergeant Stefano and Sergeant |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 30 |
|----|---|
| 2 | Mitchell. |
| 3 | Q. As I understand it Sergeant |
| 4 | McHeaton is an African-American officer? |
| 5 | A. Yes. |
| 6 | Q. Sergeant Stefano is a Caucasian |
| 7 | officer? |
| 8 | A. Yes. |
| 9 | Q. And sergeant Mitchell is an |
| 10 | African-American officer? |
| 11 | A. Yes. |
| 12 | Q. Do you remember what |
| 13 | lieutenants were in charge of I think you |
| 14 | worked in the narcotics unit in the |
| 15 | detective bureau; is that right? |
| 16 | THE WITNESS: Pardon me? |
| 17 | Q. You worked in the narcotics |
| 18 | unit in the detective bureau? |
| 19 | THE WITNESS: At what point in |
| 20 | time? |
| 21 | MR. SWEENEY: I'm still talking |
| 22 | about 2010 to 2011. |
| 23 | A. Yes, I worked in narcotics in |
| 24 | the detective bureau. |
| 25 | Q. Did you work in any other unit |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 31 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | of the detective bureau other than |
| 3 | narcotics? |
| 4 | A. No, not that I remember. |
| 5 | Q. Your entire tour the first time |
| 6 | in the detective bureau was in narcotics? |
| 7 | A. My first experience within the |
| 8 | detective bureau I was in the narcotics unit |
| 9 | that I remember. |
| LO | Q. I asked you about the sergeants |
| L1 | and I'm going to ask you a similar question |
| 12 | about the lieutenants. |
| L3 | What lieutenants do you remember |
| L 4 | being in charge of the detectives and police |
| L5 | officers that worked in the narcotics unit |
| L6 | during the 2010-2011 timeframe? |
| L7 | A. Lieutenants, I don't remember. |
| L 8 | I know that Captain Adonaro was in charge at |
| 19 | some point. I don't remember exactly. |
| 20 | Q. Did you have any partners, |
| 21 | police officers, detective partners that |
| 22 | worked with you at the detective bureau |
| 23 | during this timeframe? |
| 24 | THE WITNESS: What timeframe is |
| 2.5 | that again? |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 32 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | MR. SWEENEY: Again, this is |
| 3 | 2010-2011 your first time there. |
| 4 | A. Oh, yes, I did. |
| 5 | Q. Who were the partners that you |
| 6 | worked with? |
| 7 | THE WITNESS: My immediate |
| 8 | partner or who were in the unit |
| 9 | exactly? |
| 1.0 | Q. Who was your immediate partner? |
| 11 | A. When I was first assigned to |
| 12 | the detective bureau in the narcotics unit |
| 13 | my partner was Detective Patterson. |
| 14 | Q. Did you have any other partners |
| 15 | during that timeframe other than Officer |
| 16 | Patterson? |
| L7 | THE WITNESS: What timeframe is |
| 18 | that again? |
| L 9 | MR. SWEENEY: 2010-2011 the |
| 20 | first time you were there. |
| 21 | A. Yes, they separated us and they |
| 22 | I was we were separated as partners |
| 23 | and was assigned to I was partnered with |
| 24 | Detective Caparro. |
| 25 | Q. Is it Detective or Officer |
| - 1 | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 33 |
|----|--|
| 2 | Caparro? |
| 3 | A. Oh, no, Detective Caparro. |
| 4 | Q. Detective Caparro is a |
| 5 | Caucasian officer. |
| 6 | Was it Detective Patterson or Officer |
| 7 | Patterson at the time? |
| 8 | A. At the time it was Detective |
| 9 | Patterson. |
| 10 | Q. He's African-American? |
| 11 | A. Yes. |
| 12 | Q. Any other partners other than |
| 13 | Patterson and Caparro? |
| 14 | THE WITNESS: At that time? |
| 15 | MR. SWEENEY: At that time. |
| 16 | A. That I remember, no, no. |
| 17 | Q. Who were the other members, |
| 18 | other police officers, other detectives in |
| 19 | that unit at that time which is 2010-2011? |
| 20 | A. At that time the unit consisted |
| 21 | of Officer Leone |
| 22 | THE WITNESS: Who else that I |
| 23 | remember? |
| 24 | A. Detective Caparro, Officer |
| 25 | Leone and Detective Ibanez. |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 34 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | Q. Were there any others? |
| 3 | A. Initially Detective Patterson |
| 4 | was the only detective and then subsequently |
| 5 | Detective Caparro was promoted. I don't |
| 6 | remember anyone else. |
| 7 | Q. Detective Antonini was not part |
| 8 | of the unit at that time? |
| 9 | A. At that particular time, not |
| 10 | yet, no. |
| 11 | Q. Officer Leone, is that what |
| 12 | race is he? |
| 13 | A. He's Caucasian. |
| 14 | Q. Is it Ibanez? |
| 15 | A. Ibanez, yes. |
| 16 | Q. Ibanez with a B or |
| 17 | A. Yes, I-B. |
| 1.8 | Q. Ibanez? |
| 19 | A. I believe so. |
| 20 | Q. If you know, what racial |
| 21 | component is Officer Ibanez? |
| 22 | A. I believe he's biracial. I'm |
| 23 | not sure; Hispanic, Caucasian. I'm not |
| 24 | sure. |
| 25 | Q. He might have been biracial |
| | |

35 M. BOVELL 1 2 either Hispanic or Caucasian? Or both. 3 Α. But not African-American? Q. 4 Not African-American. 5 Α. There came a time where you Ο. 6 7 left the detective division first time and went back to patrol? 8 Α. Yes. 9 What was the reason for that 10 Q. reassignment? 11 12 There was an issue. Me and Patterson were partners and the other 13 members had a problem with it. We were very 14 productive. We were very active. The other 15 members had a problem with it. We would 16 have meetings, group meetings among 17 ourselves and discuss our weaknesses and our 18 strength and apparently we voiced our 19 opinion -- I voiced my opinion and that 20 21 became a problem. It became a problem and I was told to write an MV-5 as a result of, 22 you know, what happened by my supervisor at 2.3 the time. So I voiced my opinion and 24 because of that the supervisors felt that I 25

M. BOVELL 36 1 shouldn't have done that so we had a meeting 2 and they reassigned me. I brought up that 3 4 if I'm not -- during that meeting I said, you know, if I'm not suited for the unit you 5 can reassign me, so I was reassigned. I did 6 7 not ask to be reassigned but they thought that because I spoke against another 8 9 Caucasian officer that I should be reassigned, so that was somewhat of a 10 punishment on their part. 11 MR. SWEENEY: This is the first 12 13 I'm hearing of this. 14 Ο. What officer did you speak 15 against? 16 Α. who was promoted to detective within 12 months, 17 approximately 11 months. 18 19 In what respect or how did it Q. 20 come up that you spoke against him? 21 Well, there were some issues as Α. far as -- we're a narcotics unit so a lot of 22 23 the things we do during the day we plan, we execute, we do surveillance, we have -- we 2.4 25 target drug dealers in the community. Based

2 on information, I believe we utilize CI information.

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Q. CI is confidential informants?

Yeah, confidential informants, Α. we do surveillance, we do, you know, drug buys with the CI's, so sometimes when we arrest individuals, suspects and during the course of some of these arrests, you know, we felt that some members of the group were lacking in the execution of these arrests, so, you know, we discussed this as a group and as far as our strength and weaknesses and there was an incident where one of the members of the unit got injured because we felt that another member wasn't keeping up their end of, you know, as far as doing their job, so I voiced my opinion and it got back to the supervisors. My supervisor wanted me to document it, so I did, and upon documenting it and speaking against just the witnesses of that particular officer, , they felt that they

Q. Who was the officer that was

didn't like that so I was reassigned.

| 1 | M. BOVELL 38 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | injured that you believe was a result of |
| 3 | whatever |
| 4 | A. I don't remember. I think it |
| 5 | was |
| 6 | Q. Do you recall when that |
| 7 | incident occurred? |
| 8 | A. It was between that time period |
| 9 | that you mentioned. I don't remember |
| 10 | exactly when. It was an issue. I brought |
| 11 | it up. I did everything right. They felt |
| 12 | that I shouldn't be speaking, you know, |
| 13 | against another white officer and this is |
| 14 | what I get for speaking up so I was |
| 15 | reassigned. |
| 16 | Q. I'm going to show you and your |
| 17 | attorney what is marked as Defendant's B and |
| 1.8 | C and ask that you take a look at that. |
| 19 | (Handed) |
| 20 | A. Okay. |
| 21 | Q. What is Exhibit B? |
| 22 | A. This is an MV-5 that appears to |
| 23 | be written by me. It has my signature. |
| 2 4 | Q. When was that MV-5 generated by |
| 25 | you? |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 39 |
|----|--|
| 2 | A. The date on the MV-5 is January |
| 3 | 21st, 2011. |
| 4 | Q. That's when you were working in |
| 5 | the detective bureau for that first time? |
| 6 | A. From 2010, yes, from 2010, |
| 7 | yeah. |
| 8 | Q. What is Exhibit C? |
| 9 | A. C is an MV-5 that I was |
| 10 | directed to write by my supervisor. |
| 11 | Q. When was Exhibit C, the MV-5, |
| 12 | when was that generated? |
| 13 | A. The date on it is January 21st, |
| 14 | 2011. |
| 15 | Q. Is that the same timeframe, |
| 16 | same date? |
| 17 | A. Yes, that's the same day. |
| 18 | Q. Why was Exhibit B, the MV-5, |
| 19 | why was that MV-5 generated, what was the |
| 20 | purpose? |
| 21 | A. We made I believe we made, |
| 22 | myself and Detective Patterson made a drug |
| 23 | arrest where the suspect swallowed the |
| 24 | narcotics and for their safety we took him |
| 25 | to the hospital. During that course of |
| | |

2.0

M. BOVELL 40

time, I believe Sergeant Stefano was, I don't know, he was upset about some things and he was a bit irate as usual and he requested us to return to the office or one of us to return to the office from what I can recall. I guess it wasn't as expeditious as he wanted so -- because I was helping my partner at the time because we were watching the prisoner. We wanted to make sure he was okay so he instructed me to write the MV-5. I said, "Why?" There was a delay when he requested for me to come back to the narcotics office.

- Q. Why was Exhibit C generated, what was the purpose of that report?

M. BOVELL 41 1 known to be upset all the time but he was 2 very upset. He wanted me to write an MV-5 3 as to what we discussed and that's what I 4 5 did. As I understand your testimony, Q. 6 7 Officer Bovell, it appears that you were partnered up with Detective Patterson, I 8 9 think at that time; is that correct, January 21st, 2011 timeframe? 10 11 Α. That is correct. 12 Then it appears from Exhibit C that there was a directive that you were 13 14 going to have a new partner which would have been Detective Caparro? 15 16 Α. Yes. And you voiced -- is it fair to 17 Q. 18 say you voiced some concern about that? 19 Prior to this and during that 20 time, yes, we voiced what we discussed about 21 it. He knew what was going on and this 22 supervisor was upset. 23 Exhibit C, the MV-5, is documenting your concern regarding being 24 25 partnered up with

M. BOVELL 42 1 It's documenting partially Α. 2 conversations between me and my supervisor 3 at the time, Sergeant Stefano, and his 4 directives along with some of our 5 communications. 6 Is there another MV-5 or some 7 other report which documents the incident 8 9 that you testified about where you believe 10 was responsible for being hurt? 11 12 I believe so. I don't remember Α. 13 exactly but I think it should be. And that MV-5 would have 14 Q. 15 predated these MV-5's? I'm not sure. I'm not sure but 16 Α. I don't remember exactly. 17 Based on that chronology, was 18 Ο. 19 ever your partner or did you leave the narcotics unit shortly 20 thereafter? 21 22 He was my partner. 23 supervisor said he's my partner so I have no 24 choice. 25 Q. How long was he your partner

43 1 M. BOVELL for? 2 I guess perhaps a few days. 3 Α. don't remember exactly but a few days 4 because during that course of time we had a 5 meeting where we sat down with another 6 Caucasian supervisor. I believe he's 7 retired. I don't remember his name and he 8 9 was really upset because I voiced my 10 opinion. I remember him saying, you know, I've never seen, you know, they were upset 11 12 that I expressed myself in a respectful 13 manner. I guess they're not used to anyone giving input or feedback, so shortly after I 14 15 was reassigned to patrol. 16 Ο. In terms of duration, it seems 17 like you were or partner just for a few days before 18 19 you were reassigned? Maybe a few weeks or days, I'm 20 Α. 21 not sure; perhaps a week or two. I don't 22 remember. 23 During the timeframe where you 24 served with as your 25 partner, were there any incidents where he

44 M. BOVELL 1 failed to meet your expectations of a 2 partner? 3 THE WITNESS: I don't 4 understand what you mean. Could you 5 clarify, please. 6 I believe you, in Exhibit C, 7 indicated that you had concerns about 8 9 working with partner and that's one of the reasons that 10 eventually lead to you being transferred out 11 of the detective division; correct? 12 Yes. 13 Α. 14 And you said there may be a document of an incident where you believe 15 16 didn't do something such that another officer got hurt? 17 What we do, you know, within 18 the narcotics unit it's very 19 20 confrontational. Sometimes we got to take a fight with drug addicts, drug dealers. They 21 don't want to go to jail so they're very 22 was very 23 combative. afraid. He was very afraid. Some of us in 24 the unit were not -- did not feel secure 25

M. BOVELL 45 1 working with him or apprehending suspects 2 just with him where, you know, in a 3 situation where there's one officer and 4 5 . So, yes, did I feel unsafe, sometimes, yes; did I not trust his ability 6 to apprehend suspects, no, I did not, so I 7 was very careful in what we did and how we 8 apprehended and whenever we had verbal abuse 9 or we had the support of the team, as well. 10 Yes, so yes -- I believe some of us did not 11 trust his ability at the time, that's 12 13 correct. You said "we". 14 Is there -- who else shared your 15 16 opinion? 17 Detective Patterson. We spoke about -- we had meetings, sometimes without 18 19 -- mostly without the supervisors group 20 meetings. As a unit we tried to be very 21 cohesive. We understand everyone has 22 different personalities but we, with efforts 23 of myself, we suggested to have group meetings and we did and some people just did 24

not feel the same way or share the same

25

M. BOVELL 46 1 views concurred with some of our finest. 2 3 Q. Was 4 those group meetings? Yes, he was. 5 Α. Are these group meetings 6 7 documented anywhere in minutes or anything? No, in the narcotics unit we 8 9 unlike patrol division we are not mandated to use memo books so it's freelance where we 10 11 come together, sometimes our schedules 12 change randomly. When we come in we plan 13 what we're going to do for that day. We 14 might have an assignment, it depends, 15 surveillance in the community or there may have been a crime in a particular area that 16 17 we have to focus on, you know, things like that, get information so it was really 18 undefined. 19 Now, when you went back to the 20 21 patrol division after your first tour in the detective division, can you tell me similar 22 23 questions what sergeants do you remember 24 were your immediate supervisors? When I went back --25 Α.

| 1 | M. BOVELL 47 |
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| 2 | Q. This would be the 2011 |
| 3 | timeframe. |
| 4 | THE WITNESS: The first time? |
| 5 | MR. SWEENEY: Yes actually, |
| 6 | I think it's your second tour in the |
| 7 | patrol division because you started |
| 8 | working in patrol, you went to |
| 9 | detective and you went back to |
| 10 | patrol. |
| 11 | THE WITNESS: So, it was after |
| 12 | I was reassigned in 2007 after the |
| 13 | incident. |
| 14 | The supervisors that I worked |
| 15 | under? |
| 16 | Q. Do you recall your sergeants |
| 17 | that you worked for? |
| 18 | A. Not really. I don't remember |
| 19 | specifically. |
| 20 | Q. Do you recall the lieutenants |
| 21 | that you worked for? |
| 22 | A. Well, we at the time we had |
| 23 | rotating shifts so we had various |
| 24 | supervisors, you know, that at that time we |
| 25 | didn't have steady tours so even with steady |
| - 1 | |

M. BOVELL 48 1 tours the supervisors schedule still rotates 2 3 while the subordinates were more steady so it's really hard to recall. It's just like 4 5 speed dating. 6 Q. How about partners, did you have a regular partner in patrol? 7 Not really, not that I recall. 8 9 That could be random. You could be placed in various sectors. That's how patrol is 10 11 divided with sectors and you're assigned a 12 patrol car to patrol that particular 13 geographic area, so one day I could be 14 working on the south side, and it all depends on whoever is planning that 15 16 particular day, supervisor. 17 There came a time, I believe in Ο. 18 2011 where you went back again to the detective division; is that correct? 19 20 Α. Yeah, but after I was initially 21 assigned to patrol I was then reassigned 22 back to the narcotics unit. 23 Can you tell me how that came 24 about, that reassignment back to the 25 detective division?

| 1 | M. BOVELL 49 |
|----|--|
| 2 | THE WITNESS: I don't |
| 3 | understand. |
| 4 | Q. Did someone ask you, did you |
| 5 | volunteer; how did that happen? |
| 6 | A. Well, I someone had to ask |
| 7 | me. I was very productive, you know, I was |
| 8 | known to be productive, you know, so I guess |
| 9 | someone had asked me to go back to the unit. |
| 10 | Q. Who asked you? |
| 11 | A. At the time I believe there was |
| 12 | a transition from Sergeant Stefano as the |
| 13 | supervisor to narcotics to I believe |
| 14 | Sergeant Mitchell. I know at some point I |
| 15 | had a meeting. I was called into the office |
| 16 | I believe with Captain Adonaro. I don't |
| 17 | remember who it was and I was told that I |
| 18 | was going back to the narcotics unit. |
| 19 | Q. So, you recall having a meeting |
| 20 | with Captain Adonaro about |
| 21 | A. I believe it was two |
| 22 | supervisors. |
| 23 | THE WITNESS: Let me try to |
| 24 | recall here. |
| 25 | A. Two supervisors. I had a |
| | |

50 M. BOVELL 1 meeting with two supervisors and they 2 interviewed me and they wanted to know how I 3 felt about going back to the unit and I 4 accepted. 5 Q. ₩as still 6 part of the unit at that time? 7 I believe so, yes, because he 8 9 left shortly after that; yes, yes, was still there. 10 Q. I don't think I asked you this 11 question before, Officer Bovell, but your 12 first tour in the detective bureau which 13 would have been 2010, 2011, do you recall 14 who the police commissioner was? 15 I don't remember. 16 Do you recall who the mayor 17 Ο. 18 was? I don't remember exactly. 19 20 We've had some different commissioners and mayors. At that time I don't specifically 21 remember. I know that when I was reassigned 22 that we -- when I was reassigned we had 23 Commissioner Bell as police commissioner at 24 25 some point.

| 1 | M. BOVELL 51 |
|----|---|
| 2 | Q. Commissioner Bell is an |
| 3 | African-American? |
| 4 | A. African-American, right. |
| 5 | Q. During your reassignment |
| 6 | you're referring to reassignment back to |
| 7 | patrol or back to your detective division a |
| 8 | second time? |
| 9 | THE WITNESS: Say that again, |
| 10 | please. |
| 11 | Q. When you say you got |
| 12 | reassigned, are talking about being |
| 13 | reassigned to patrol? |
| 14 | A. To the detective unit, |
| 15 | narcotics. |
| 16 | Q. The second time? |
| 17 | A. After 2011 and towards the end |
| 18 | of 2011 when I was reassigned to the |
| 19 | narcotics unit. |
| 20 | Q. You do recall Police |
| 21 | Commissioner Bell being in charge of the |
| 22 | police department? |
| 23 | A. At some point. |
| 24 | Q. Do you recall who the mayor was |
| 25 | at that time? |
| | |

M. BOVELL 52 1 The mayor, you know what, we 2 Α. 3 were transitioning between mayors; I believe Young, Mayor Young, Clinton Young and Mayor 4 5 Davis. Mayor Young and Mayor Davis are 6 Q. both African-American? 7 Yes, they are. 8 Α. 9 Q. When you were reassigned back to the detective bureau in 2011 the second 10 11 time, do you recall who the sergeant was 12 that you reported to? Oh, for a little while it was 13 Sergeant Stefano. For a little while it was 14 15 Sergeant Stefano but he left. I knew that 16 before he came that he was going to be 17 reassigned and I believe -- I don't remember 18 exactly but I believe it was Sergeant 19 Mitchell. Sergeant Mitchell was the 20 narcotics supervisor. 21 Q. Was Sergeant McEachin at all a 22 supervisor or sergeant? 23 Yes, after Sergeant Mitchell. 24 Sergeant Mitchell got injured at some point 25 and I believe Sergeant McEachin took over.

M. BOVELL 53 1 2 And then eventually Sergeant Q. 3 Fegan? 4 Α. Mitchell -- yes, that's 5 correct. 6 So, the four sergeants that you Q. 7 would have reported to during your second tour in the detective bureau would have been 8 9 Sergeant Stefano for a short bit, Sergeant 10 Mitchell, Sergeant McEachin and Sergeant 11 Fegan? 12 That's correct. Α. 13 Do you recall the lieutenants 14 that the narcotics unit's officers and 15 detectives reported to? 16 I know -- I don't recall 17 exactly but I know they were Caucasian. 18 forgot their names, sergeants and 19 lieutenants. 20 Q. Captain Adonaro was still the 21 captain in charge at that point? 22 Captain Adonaro was captain at 23 some point in time. I know that there's a 24 Caucasian lieutenant but I forgot his name 25 and a Caucasian sergeant but I forgot his

54 M. BOVELL 1 name; both retired. They're retired now. 2 What partners did you have in 3 the detective bureau the second time? 4 The second time -- oh, the Α. 5 second time was the first time we had so 6 many African-Americans in the unit and I 7 remember discussing that. This will never 8 9 happened again under the commission of Commissioner Bell. When I returned to the 10 unit we had approximately four 11 African-American males in the unit. That's 12 never been seen before and we also knew that 13 it would never happen again. It would be 14 the first and last time. 15 Ο. When you returned to the unit 16 in 2011, you had four African-Americans? 17 At some point in time, Officer 18 Bradley came on board, Detective Griffin 19 2.0 came on board so there's approximately four under the initiative of McEachin and 21 Mitchell, Sergeant Mitchell. Sergeant 22 Mitchell is now Lieutenant Mitchell -- I'm 23 sorry, Sergeant McEachin now Lieutenant 24 McEachin and Sergeant Mitchell was recently 2.5

55 M. BOVELL 1 the honorary commissioner. He retired and 2 was recently the police commissioner. 3 Ο. As I understand your testimony, 4 when you went back to the detective bureau 5 the second time, your sergeant supervisor at 6 that time would have been Sergeant Stefano? 7 For a little time. I was told 8 9 that he would no longer be the supervisor and that there was going to be a new 10 supervisor and that's what I was told and 11 why I accepted the position back in. 12 said there was going to be new leadership. 13 Sergeant Mitchell became the narcotics 14 supervisor. Subsequently to that, Sergeant 15 Mitchell had an injury, on-duty injury where 16 he was apprehending the suspect and he got 17 injured and then Sergeant McEachin took 18 19 over. 20 I'm just trying to get -- track You said there were four 21 African-American detectives or officers in 22 the narcotics unit. 23 Were they working when Sergeant 24 Stefano was there or did they come aboard 25

| 1 | M. BOVELL 56 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | later? |
| 3 | A. Subsequently they came aboard |
| 4 | later under Sergeant Mitchell and Sergeant |
| 5 | McEachin. Sergeant McEachin's now |
| 6 | Lieutenant McEachin. |
| 7 | Q. I think you indicated that |
| 8 | those four African-American officers or |
| 9 | detectives would have been yourself, Officer |
| 10 | Briley, Officer Griffin? |
| 11 | A. And Griffin. |
| 12 | Q. Is there anyone else? |
| L3 | A. I don't remember. You know |
| L4 | what, actually I'm trying to remember. As |
| 15 | far as I remember right now, Officer |
| 16 | Zappone. |
| L7 | Q. With a Z? |
| L8 | A. Yeah, with a Z, Zappone. He |
| L9 | transferred. |
| 20 | Q. Is Officer Zappone |
| 21 | African-American? |
| 22 | A. I believe he's Hispanic, |
| 23 | Zappone. I'm not quite sure. |
| 24 | Q. Was Detective Antonini part of |
| 2.5 | the group when you transferred into it the |
| | |

1 M. BOVELL 57 second time? 2 The second time, yes, he came 3 aboard, as well. I forgot about Antonini. 4 5 He came aboard, as well, subsequently under Mitchell. After I came aboard he came 6 7 aboard, as well. 8 Q. Was Officer Light part of the group at that time? 9 10 Yeah, Light was still -- Light was there. He came up, as well. 11 12 Q. Based on names you gave me, I'm 13 just counting six detectives. Ibanez left. So when I came 14 Α. 15 back to the unit, there was myself, I 16 believe Griffin was there, myself, Griffin 17 came aboard at some point in time and Detective Patterson at some point in time, 18 19 Ibanez left at some point in time, left. 20 21 MS. BELLANTONI: Who? 22 THE WITNESS: 23 24 He left, he transferred. So, 25 Ibanez transferred,

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transferred, Zappone transferred and went to other police departments.

- Q. I think in your prior testimony you indicated that it would be unusual or historic to have four African-American males.
- A. It's never happened before.

 Normally under -- as I said in 2009 I was made an offer to join the narcotics unit but then Sergeant Fisher now Lieutenant Fisher, it was predominantly all white males. By the time Sergeant Wuttke who was a police officer then, Sergeant Fegan and other officers all white officers. The narcotics unit is predominantly dominated since I've been in the Mount Vernon Police Department by white males, very few African-American males so it was pretty unusual to have one or two African-American males in the narcotics unit.
- Q. Is there any -- do you have an opinion whether it's better to have more black officers in the detective bureau than not?

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M. BOVELL 59

A. No, it's just the opportunity.

There's more favoritism. White officers

were given more opportunity and more

advantage than the black officers. That's

what it is. There's nothing obscure about

it.

Q. What is the basis for your belief when you say that?

Well, this was discussed among Α. other officers in the department. It was an We -- Sergeant Fisher is known to be a racist. He's still known to be a racist. He treated other black officers unfairly and no one liked to work under him. When they requested me in 2009 to come work in the narcotics unit, they needed -- the chief at the time I believe was Barbara Dunkin at some point, Chief Barbara Dunkin, she felt there was a problem with African-American males not being in the unit and why didn't you want to work in the unit and so Antonini approached me because he worked under Sergeant Fisher at that time and we worked with Sergeant Wuttke, Sergeant Fegan and

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M. BOVELL 60

somehow, I don't know, Antonini, he probably perhaps liked my work ethic or productivity and he tried to recruit me. He said "Listen, Sergeant Fisher addressed me you should come join, you should join up, you know, you should come on board." He gave me a phone call and I said I'll think about it. Initially I said yes but then I spoke to --I asked other officers such as David Clark which is now Detective Clark their opinion so I turned to senior officers to ask their opinion, you know, about working within the unit and they expressed to me their experience because they worked the unit at some point under Sergeant Fisher that Sergeant Fisher is a racist, he targets -he doesn't like black people. They've had bad experience with him. I spoke with other officers, as well, and no one wanted to work under Sergeant Fisher at the time because they knew he was a racist.

- Q. The officers that gave you this opinion were now Lieutenant Clark?
 - A. Not Lieutenant, Detective

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Clark, one of the officers. There are other officers that transferred and are no longer there, also black officers that experienced the same thing under Lieutenant Fisher, now Lieutenant Fisher, Sergeant Fisher back then when he ran the narcotics unit.

- Q. What other officers -- who were these other officers?
- I don't remember their names Α. right now but there are other officers. asked the opinion of other officers at the time when the opportunity presented itself when Sergeant Fisher offered me to join the unit and I subsequently accepted and then declined. I declined afterwards after I heard the experience of these other black officers so I just realized that I was just being used as existence or I didn't want to be part of that -- I didn't want, you know, I didn't want to experience that, I didn't want to be part of that at all, and other things to, I also received information that they were doing other unethical things, you know, against black people in the community

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so I didn't want to be part of that.

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Q. Let's break that down.

You said Detective Antonini tried to recruit you back in 2009.

Yeah, he came to me and said Α. "Sergeant Fisher likes how I work and you should come and join." I said I'll think about it, you know, but Antonini and I spoke briefly, you know, he would talk to me something about I don't feel like something but he would talk to me and tell me things. He confided in me with certain information so he felt that I would be a good pick to join the unit and I should come on board but I did some research on my own and I spoke to other senior officers and how they felt about it in their experience and, you know, just as a guiding tool for me to make a constructive decision on my career path. After I obtained that information, I felt that it was inadequate for me, that's not something I want to be a part of so I declined. They had a meeting and he called me to a meeting which included Sergeant

M. BOVELL 63

Fisher at the time, Captain Adonaro, a few other white supervisors, they asked me why. I told them at this point in time I felt that this is not the best route for me and I'd rather go to the route of the task force first because normally there's steps; you go to the task force, then you go to narcotics, you go to quality of life and then you go up and I said I think I'm rushing things. I'd rather to be in homicide to have that experience of task force before I jump right into the narcotics and they told me that the opportunity would never present itself again so you either take it now or never and I declined.

- Q. Detective Antonini, it sounds like he was working in the detective bureau at that time?
- A. He was an officer at that point. He didn't obtain his detective shield as of yet. He worked, Detective Antonini worked under the supervision of Sergeant Fisher at some point at that time.
 - Q. But in narcotics?

64 M. BOVELL 1 2 Α. In the narcotics unit, that's 3 correct. But Detective Antonini or Q. 4 Officer Antonini wasn't there when you 5 joined the detective bureau for the first 6 7 time? The first time, no, because 8 that group was dismantled. Chief Dunkin at 9 some point dismantled the narcotics group. 10 She -- I don't know the exact reason but she 11 12 had a problem with it. I guess she had a problem with now Lieutenant Fisher so that 13 group was dismantled. She did not like the 14 way it was ran and it was dismantled. Also, 15 from what I understand, she had issues with 16 Antonini because Antonini was known to beat 17 up on black people. 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 was known to be very abusive, a very abusive 25

65 M. BOVELL 1 2 officer of -- what else should I say -- of his powers, his responsibility. 3 Did you have this knowledge Q. 4 when he tried to recruit you to go to the 5 detective bureau? 6 7 Yes, partially but I learned more along the lines so which is why I 8 refrained from -- I declined because I 9 didn't know what I was getting into. I 10 didn't want to get into that type of 11 situation. I understand it would have been 12 a career move but I'm not that type of 13 police officer so I chose the later. 14 How did you get information 15 Ο. about what Detective Antonini had done to 16 17 Oh, Antonini told me. He tells 1.8 me a lot of things. Antonini told me why --19 he told me that now Lieutenant Fisher 20 doesn't like African-Americans or even 21 Hispanics but the reason why -- now 22 Lieutenant Fisher has a relationship with 23 Antonini. He's fond of him because he likes 24

baseball, so Lieutenant Fisher likes

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M. BOVELL

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baseball and Antonini told me that when he was first assigned to work under Sergeant Fisher at the time, Sergeant Fisher didn't like him but they did a search warrant. day they did a search warrant on a house and they couldn't find the drugs, the drugs that they set out to find for that particular suspect but Antonini said Sergeant Fisher got to like him was that he was able to recover the drugs outside of the apartment, it was somewhere outside the apartment. Once he found it, once Antonini found the drugs when they did the search warrant that's when the relationship began to grow between himself and Sergeant Fisher. They found the drugs outside the apartment and they arrested the person.

- Q. Your information regarding

 Sergeant Fisher now Lieutenant Fisher being racist came from Detective Antonini?
- A. Yes, Detective Antonini and other black officers.
- Q. Detective Antonini told you about what he had done

3 A.

A. Yes, yes, he discussed that with me, yes. He told me himself that there's a race war while I was in narcotics unit under Sergeant Fegan so he confided in me. He told me things. I guess he thought that we were alike based on character.

Q. In looking at your Complaint, Officer Bovell, at Paragraphs -- not that you have it in front of you -- but Paragraphs 32 through 36 where you made allegations regarding what Sergeant Fegan and Detective Antonini said.

For example, Paragraph 32 says

"Sergeant Fegan and Detective Antonini

continually made racist comments to one

another about black citizens in Mount Vernon

such as "F" these niggers, they ain't shit

and will never be shit, this place, meaning

the City of Mount Vernon, is a shit hole."

Did you hear those words?

A. Yes, yes, definitely. They spoke freely. I don't know how they're comfortable saying that around me. At times

68 M. BOVELL 1 they would say it when I'm in the back of the car. We're driving to meet up with DEC 3 people to do a search warrant, so I'm in the 4 back of the car and they would just speak 5 freely. Antonini and Sergeant Fegan has 6 like a really close relationship. 7 I'll define it is Antonini is Sergeant 8 Fegan's bulldog. He does whatever he wants, 9 you know, he established himself under the 10 11 Fisher régime. So, these comments were said in 12 your presence. 1.3 Was there anyone else in the vehicle 14 15 that heard this being said? Α. No, just me. 16 17 Q. Just you? Α. Just me. 1.8 Do you know when this was said? Q. 19 During that time when Sergeant 20 Α. Fegan took over the unit. 21 22 Was it said once or more than 23 once? It was said more than once. 24 was said definitely more than once. 25

1 M. BOVELL 69 2 Q. Do you have any timeframe what 3 any --I don't remember right now but 4 Α. 5 normally -- the first time I heard it was 6 when we were going to do a search warrant. 7 I was in the back of the car. I was half asleep but, you know, I was in the back of 8 9 the car and they would speak freely about 10 how they felt about people in the community, you know. That was the first time. 11 12 noticed how Sergeant Fegan would interact 13 with the black officers including myself 14 compared to the white officers in the 15 office. He was more abrasive towards the -condescending towards black officers than 16 17 the white officers. The white officers were 18 given more privileges like days off, time It was clear. It wasn't obscure at 19 20 all. 21 Q. After this was -- after these 22 comments were said, did you ever complain to 23 anyone about these racist comments to anyone 24 in the chain of command? 25 Once I noticed these things and Α.

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how Antonini and Sergeant Fegan what they were doing in the unit, it became uneasy. did not feel comfortable being in the unit. At some point, some friction erupted between myself and Fegan where I voiced my concerns. He told me to get -- he told me to pick the fucking bag up right in front of other officers. We were about to do a search warrant and he told me in front of other officers, I believe Detective Griffin and other officers, he told me to go pick the fucking bag up and get outside and at that point in time we had a meeting, a discussion. He directed me to write an MV-5 to be out of the unit. I wrote the MV-5, we sat down and we talked and I told him how I felt about what he was doing in the unit and I didn't feel safe what Antonini was doing. I voiced my concerns and he explained to me -- he told me that things would change, that he was apologetic. He told me that he didn't want me to leave the unit so -- and he handed me back my MV-5.

Q. Let's break that down.

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M. BOVELL 71 1 These comments that I quoted from the 2 3 Complaint, you said you don't recall when they were said; right? 4 I don't remember right now 5 Α. exactly but it was during the 2013 6 It was said on different 7 timeframe. occasions. 8 You joined the detective bureau Q. 9 a second time in December of 2011 as I 10 11 understand it. Α. 12 Right. These comments were said 13 sometime in 2013? 14 Yes, under the supervision of 15 Α. Fegan as to -- first there was Stefano, 16 Mitchell, Mitchell got injured, Sergeant 17 Mitchell got injured and then Sergeant 18 McEachin took over. He was reassigned. 19 was kicked out and then Sergeant Fegan took 20 over the unit in 2013, sometime in 2013. 21 22 Your belief as to the timeframe was based on the fact that Sergeant Fegan 23 had to be a supervisor in the 2013 24 25 timeframe?

1 M. BOVELL 72 2 Α. Yes, he was my supervisor in the narcotics unit right before I 3 transferred out. 4 5 Paragraph 33 says "Officer Q. 6 Bovell has heard Sergeant Fegan say in 7 substance "Damn niggers have no sense. They should die" to which Detective Antonini 8 9 replied in substance "Let's just take their 10 money." He made a joke. He laughed 11 12 when he said that, so they were having a conversation. I was in the back of the car. 13 Was that the same timeframe 14 Q. 15 that they talked about --16 Α. That was separate. I believe that was separate, to my knowledge. 17 Do you recall when that comment 18 Ο. 19 was said? 20 Both cases was when we were Α. 21 doing search warrants. We were driving the 22 vehicle to do a search warrant, I believe to 23 the ESU garage, to the ESU garage. 24 Q. Paragraph 34 says "On numerous 25 occasions while conducting search warrants

M. BOVELL

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on suspects vehicles and homes Officer

Bovell would observe Detective Antonini

recover money and say "Did anybody see this"

as he concealed the money in his pocket."

Yes, yes, he did that often. Α. Antonini told me himself that he took money off drug dealers or African-American males during his course of employment under Sergeant Fisher. He told me that himself, so I would watch Antonini. There's a couple times I had a search warrant. I was asked to do a search warrant on the vehicles, homes and he will -- we will do like an inventory search on a car and so forth checking vehicles since it's going to be impounded. He'd find money and then he'd take the money. He looked at me and he'd pocket the money. He said "Anybody saw it?" And I wouldn't say anything but I would watch him and then he realized based on my demeanor that I wasn't with it so he'd put it back. He would put it back so he felt uneasy but his intention was to take the money. When he realized that we weren't

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74 M. BOVELL 1 co-signing what he was doing -- I wasn't 2 3 co-signing what he was doing so he even did that in front of other officers that were 4 helping to search vehicles or homes so he 5 didn't do it at some point. 6 Paragraph 34 says "On numerous 7 occasions he would take money and ask the 8 question "did anybody see this?" 9 Yes. Α. 10 You observed that? 11 I observed that more than once. 12 He took the money and put it back. 13 Then Paragraph 36 says "On one 14 Q. occasion when Detective Antonini realized 15 that Officer Bovell objected to his taking 16 money he put it back." 17 That happened more than once. 18 That's what I'm trying to 19 Q. understand. 20 The taking of the money happened more 21 22 than once? The taking of the money, I 23 observed him taking money, \$100 from a 24 25 suspect, a female's purse before at some

M. BOVELL 75

point in time after -- before, I don't remember but I observed that and Sergeant Fegan saw this, saw it happen and he didn't do anything about it, you know, the person complained about missing the money and he told them "I don't know what you're talking about, go make a complaint," so, you know, she repeatedly complained about her \$100 and I saw Detective Antonini, he took that money.

- Q. When you describe it looks like the allegations in Paragraphs 37, 38 and 39 of the Complaint, I'm just going back to Paragraphs 34 and 36 where you said "On numerous occasions Antonini would take money and say historically "did anyone see this?"
- Q. But on Paragraph 36 it says "On one occasion Antonini realized that you objected to his taking the money and he put it back."

Exactly.

Α.

- A. It was more than one occasion.
- Q. You objected on more than one occasion?

| 1 | M. BOVELL 76 |
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| 2 | A. It was more than one occasion. |
| 3 | Q. That he put the money back? |
| 4 | A. Yeah, he took the money and |
| 5 | then he put the money back once he realized |
| 6 | that I wasn't with it or whoever that was |
| 7 | along with myself wasn't with what he was |
| 8 | doing. |
| 9 | Q. Who else was with you? |
| 10 | A. I don't remember. |
| 11 | THE WITNESS: You asked that |
| 12 | question more than once. |
| 13 | MR. SWEENEY: Let me ask the |
| 14 | question a different way so I |
| 15 | understand your testimony. |
| 16 | Q. On each and every occasion that |
| 17 | you saw Sergeant Antonini take the money, |
| 18 | did you make him put it back? |
| 19 | MS. BELLANTONI: Objection to |
| 20 | the form of the question. |
| 21 | Q. In each and every occasion that |
| 22 | you saw Detective Antonini take money, did |
| 23 | you somehow communicate to him that you |
| 24 | didn't approve of that? |
| 25 | A. Yes, he saw that I didn't I |
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M. BOVELL 77 1 2 wasn't for what he was doing based on my reaction, my body reaction and my gestures 3 to him but I looked at him and he realized I 4 5 wasn't condoning what he was doing and then he placed the money back. 6 7 Your testimony is that happened on a number of occasions? 8 9 Α. More than once. 10 Ο. More than once? Α. Yes. 11 12 0. More than twice? I would say at least twice. 13 Α. 14 At least twice? Q. 15 Yes. Α. 16 Do you recall the names of any 17 of these suspects that this occurred to? 18 I don't remember right now but 19 the information is there, in the police 20 records. I don't remember right now what the name of the suspects were or are but I 21 22 know that it was in that timeframe in 2013. 23 And this occurred, this meaning 24 him taking money, you telling him by your 25 body language or gestures you didn't approve

78 M. BOVELL 1 and Detective Antonini putting the money 2 back? 3 Yes. 4 Α. You said that was done not only 5 in your presence but other officers? 6 Α. Yes. 7 And you don't recall who those 8 other officers were? 9 Α. Right now I don't remember. 10 Ο. Did you report this to anyone 11 in your chain of command? 12 No, I was afraid to. Based on 13 what I experienced of being ostracized I was 14 15 afraid to but his behavior was getting from bad to worse, though. 16 You said you were afraid to. 17 Why were you afraid to? 18 Because I was left holding the 19 Α. bag before. You know, I called it the 20 holding the bag trick. What it is is that 21 when I was kicked out -- when I was 22 reassigned the first time we had a meeting 23 based on my MV-5's and my prospective on 24 things and my opinions and I forgot the 25

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M. BOVELL 79

lieutenant, the white Caucasian lieutenant who's now retired and also the sergeant who's now retired, I don't remember, they called everyone in the office and everyone to express their opinions of what happened and what occurred and then they subsequently called me into the office, they questioned me and then they told me that I'm going to be reassigned, so it's the holding the bag trick where, you know, they put people on the spot and I asked them what happened and then if I -- if my testimony was different from theirs, if I wasn't on board then you're not a part of the team, so if you're not a part of the team, you know, you don't keep your mouth shut, you get kicked out.

- Q. Did you have a duty under the rules and regulations of the Mount Vernon Police Department to make a report of misconduct by another officer?
- A. If you see something, you say something. We discussed it amongst ourself. We discussed it amongst other officers, you know, and based on our experience we know

M. BOVELL

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that the Mount Vernon Police Department is not on the straight and arrow, you know, doing the right thing doesn't mean you're going to get the right results unfortunately. So, you could be ostracized, you could be punished, you could be deemed as a troublemaker, you could be deemed as a problem with authority. This is how it works. It's actually a blue code, you keep your mouth shut or your career is going to go down the drain and it's going to be uneasy for you and that's the way it is and this is why we have so many people that transfer. Nobody wants any problems. So, know, so you keep it fresh, you don't say anything, you know, then you won't have a problem with transferring or anybody, you know, as far as a reference and people are just trying to get out. You can look at the transfer rates from 2013 until now.

Q. In response to an earlier question, did you have a duty to report misconduct of another officer under the rules and regulations?

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| 1 | M. BOVELL 81 |
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| 2 | A. We all do. |
| 3 | Q. I'm going to show you for the |
| 4 | record and your attorney Exhibit A and ask |
| 5 | you to take a quick look at that. |
| 6 | (Handed) |
| 7 | MS. BELLANTONI: I'm just |
| 8 | noting for the record this has not |
| 9 | been bate stamped. |
| 1.0 | Is this something that's been |
| 11 | provided prior to today's deposition? |
| 12 | MR. SWEENEY: I'll represent |
| 13 | for the record that it's a copy of a |
| 14 | record of what you provided. I can |
| 15 | certainly look for your copy of the |
| L 6 | bate stamp, how is that? |
| L 7 | (Whereupon Ms. Bellantoni and |
| L 8 | the witness are conferring.) |
| L 9 | THE WITNESS: No, not that I |
| 20 | remember, no. |
| 21 | MR. SWEENEY: What was the |
| 22 | answer to? |
| 23 | THE WITNESS: I was speaking |
| 24 | with my attorney. |
| 25 | MS. BELLANTONI: For the |
| | |

82 M. BOVELL 1 record, my question is whether my 2 client's recollection of providing 3 this document entitled "Code of 4 Conduct." It consists of 29 pages 5 issued one for 1993, whether he has a 6 recollection of providing it for production to the defendants and his 8 response was no. 9 MR. SWEENEY: That wasn't my 10 question but I appreciate the 11 clarification. 12 MS. BELLANTONI: It wasn't my 13 question. You were wondering what 14 15 his response was -- what he was saying in response to. 16 MR. SWEENEY: I can have this 17 copy, bate stamp copy of the same 18 thing marked if it would help. 19 MS. BELLANTONI: If you just 20 give me the bate stamp number, that's 21 22 fine. MR. SWEENEY: Bovell.00053 23 through Bovell.00071. 24 MS. BELLANTONI: Thank you very 25

83 M. BOVELL 1 much. 2 MR. SWEENEY: If you want to 3 compare the two I think they're the 4 5 same. MS. BELLANTONI: No need, 6 that's fine. 7 I did. My recollection the 8 first meeting that we had Sergeant Fegan, I 9 did mention Antonini's behavior and what he 10 was doing during that meeting. So, I did 11 tell the supervisor. We discussed that. 12 You told Sergeant Fegan? Ο. 13 Α. Yes, I told Sergeant Fegan. 14 Do you recall when you told 15 Q. Sergeant Fegan? 16 When he told me to get the fuck 17 out of the office because I had to get the 18 fuck out of the office. We had a long 19 discussion of what was going on in the unit 20 and how I felt and how things are wrong and 21 I wasn't comfortable with what's going on so 2.2 I reported it to my immediate supervisor and 23 he told me that things would change but 24 25 things only got worse.

84 M. BOVELL 1 I think you're referring to 2 Ο. 3 Paragraph 46 of the Complaint in which you say "For instance, in July of 2013 Sergeant 4 Fegan told Officer Bovell I want you to pick 5 up the F'ing bag and take it outside." 6 Is that the conversation? 7 Yes, that's the conversation. 8 It says in the Complaint that 9 Q. conversation happened in July of 2013? 10 Approximately. I don't know 11 Α. when that happened but in 2013 it did 12 13 happen. During that same conversation 14 Q. 15 about the bag and taking it outside, you made a report to him --16 17 We spoke about everything that was going on, what I was uncomfortable with. 18 I saw what was happening. Everybody else --19 I had a discussion with other members of the 20 21 unit at the time. Officer Garcia was part 22 of the unit, as well. I didn't mention him. Garcia, he came on board at some point, I 23 think before Fegan. We discussed that --24 25 Officer Garcia would say to me that, you

M. BOVELL

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know, "I wish I was strong like you, Bovell. You know, what's going on is wrong" but a lot of people were scared. That's the problem. People want to know what happened. If you speak up, you get ostracized, your career goes bad. You get labeled. No one wants that trouble. We would speak amongst ourselves as locker room talk but no one would actually go make a complaint because it's -- unfortunately in Mount Vernon things don't work the way it should be, the Mount Vernon Police Department. People complain. Things that you expect to be done or investigated actually do not. It's a lot of favoritism, a lot of racism, a lot of abuse of power, a lot of cover ups, repeated cover ups in the police department that other people have witnessed, I have witnessed. goes on. It's very real.

Q. So I understand your testimony, you made a report to Sergeant Fegan that

A. Yes, yes, and he was doing this

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M. BOVELL behavior and prior to that, as well. He was what? Q. Α. He was condoning that behavior prior to that in 2013, you know, under the supervision of Sergeant McEachin. He would Yes, that year under, Α. Did you observe Detective Q. Antonini

87 M. BOVELL 1 2 Α. Yes, I did. 3 Did you make a report of that to Sergeant McEachin? 4 I didn't at the time. 5 Α. believe someone else did. 6 7 8 9 10 11 Q. Why was Sergeant McEachin 12 transferred from the detective unit? 13 I have no idea. I have no 14 Α. I don't know. At the time Captain 15 Adonaro was the supervisor for the detective 16 17 division so he has the ultimate decision, so 18 I really don't know. Is it fair to say from your 19 Q. testimony, Officer Bovell, that Sergeant 20 21 McEachin condoned or tolerated what 22 Detective Antonini was doing? No, not at all. 23 Α. What actions did Sergeant 24 McEachin take with respect to --25

88 M. BOVELL 1 I don't know. Maybe that's why 2 Α. he was going out. I have no idea. 3 What do you mean maybe that's 4 Q. why he was going out? 5 Maybe that's the reason, I told 6 you what the reason was. Maybe he wasn't a 7 team planner and because he's not a team 8 player they assigned Sergeant Fegan who is 9 part of the regime under the Fisher, 10 Adonaro, Wuttke, Fegan regime. That's how 11 the department's been ran for some time. 12 It's very clear and precise. Right now 13 Lieutenant Fisher is running the division, 14 15 Sergeant Fegan is running narcotics still so it's the same thing, you know, this is a 16 regime that people, other officers, black 17 officers are aware of and if you try to 18 challenge the regime you can't win. 19 I believe you testified earlier 2.0 Ο. that Detective Antonini would tell you about 21 22 correct? 23 Oh, yes. From time to time he 24 would have discussions about -- I guess he 25

M. BOVELL 89 1 2 felt that some of us were like him, you 3 know, he felt that we were -- we had a prospective on him and character towards 4 5 him. Did Detective Antonini ever 6 0. 7 tell you Sergeant McEachin or anyone else for 8 manhandling these suspects? 9 10 No, right --Α. 11 12 13 14 15 16 For me, I learned my lesson about, you know, I saw 17 what happened before about the holding the 18 bag so I learned my lesson and my state of 19 20 mine I was very afraid, just like I'm very 21 afraid now, so someone else spoke up which 22 is a good thing and I didn't want to be 23 singled out. I didn't want to be singled 24 out and that was happening. If you're in a

group of people and you're the only one

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90 M. BOVELL 1 barking and making noise and no one else and 2 3 everybody else is inside the locker room, it's locker room conversation, but according 4 to the rules and regulations, you know, 5 escalate to a higher power to oversee and 6 investigate it then you're the only one 7 barking, you want other people to 8 metaphorically pass the bat and baton and 9 get involved which is one of the reasons why 10 11 I'm here today. In Paragraph 35 of your 12 Complaint you said that -- you allege that 13 "Sergeant Fegan is aware and consented to 14 15 Detective Antonini stealing the black suspect's money," is that correct? 16 17 No, I never said Sergeant Antonini consented to anything. 18 MR. SWEENEY: No, I said 19 Sergeant Fegan. 20 THE WITNESS: Oh. 21 22 MR. SWEENEY: I'm just reading from Paragraph 35. 23 THE WITNESS: Oh, okay. 24 25 sorry.

M. BOVELL 1 Paragraph 35 says "Sergeant 2 Q. Fegan was aware and consented to 3 4 5 I saw it, yes. 6 7 8 9 But then you said you made a 10 Ο. 11 report to Sergeant Fegan about that same misconduct. 12 No, not that same misconduct; 13 Α. 14 prior to misconduct, 15 16 I mentioned that to Sergeant Fegan in our 17 meeting. The way I'm doing this, Officer 18 Bovell, I'm literally reading from your 19 20 Complaint. 21 Paragraph 35 "Sergeant Fegan was 22 23 referring to, you know, 24 25

92 M. BOVELL 1 No, that was referring to the 2 A. incident of 3 4 5 Yes, and Sergeant Fegan was 6 7 right there and he told me to make a complaint. 8 This is kind of an important Q. 9 detail then. 10 11 12 13 14 As I said before, we were Α. 15 doing search warrants and while we're 16 conducting search warrants of vehicles I was 17 in the vehicle myself, 18 19 20 21 22 23 Q. Sergeant Fegan witnessed those? 24 No, Sergeant Fegan was not 25 Α.

| 1 | M. BOVELL 93 |
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| 2 | present during that time. |
| 3 | Q. The only incident that Sergeant |
| 4 | Fegan witnessed was the |
| 5 | |
| 6 | A. Yes. |
| 7 | Q. Do you recall which suspect |
| 8 | that |
| 9 | A. I don't remember right now. |
| 10 | Q. If you were aware that Sergeant |
| 11 | Fegan |
| 12 | why |
| 13 | wouldn't you report that to someone else |
| 14 | other than Sergeant Fegan? |
| 15 | A. Well, I |
| 16 | THE WITNESS: Report it to who? |
| 17 | Q. It sounds like you reported |
| 18 | |
| 19 | , you reported that to |
| 20 | Sergeant Fegan? |
| 21 | THE WITNESS: Pardon me? Say |
| 22 | that again. |
| 23 | Q. Did you report that incident to |
| 24 | Sergeant Fegan? |
| 25 | THE WITNESS: What incident? |
| | |

1 M. BOVELL 94 2 MR. SWEENEY: 3 THE WITNESS: 4 Sergeant Fegan, 5 why would I report something that 6 he's already there? 7 MR. SWEENEY: That's what I'm 8 getting at. 9 What did you tell Sergeant Q. 10 Fegan when you said you had this take the 11 bag out conversation? 12 I told Sergeant Fegan, "Listen, 13 I -- Antonini, we had a discussion what was 14 going on in the unit and I said I was 15 uncomfortable with what Antonini was doing. I told him what Antonini was doing and I 16 17 told him I can't be part of it. Things are 18 not right so I discussed his behavior 19 towards us in the unit, towards myself and I 20 told him I didn't agree with it and it needs 21 to stop and I don't want to be part of 22 something like that so he explained to me 23 that things are going to be different, 24 things are going to change and he didn't 25 want me to leave the unit and everything

95 1 M. BOVELL 2 else so I stuck around and it continued. 3 Paragraph 48 of your Complaint says "Officer Bovell advised Sergeant Fegan 4 5 that he would be requesting a transfer from 6 the narcotics unit due in large part to his, 7 meaning Fegan's, demeaning and racial discriminatory remarks and conduct," is that 8 9 right? 10 Α. If that's what it says. 11 MR. SWEENEY: That's what it 12 says. 13 Okav. Α. 14 Q. So, did you request a transfer 15 because of Sergeant Fegan's demeaning and 16 racial discriminatory remarks or because of 17 what Antonini --18 Both. He's the supervisor. Α. 19 He's head of the unit. He represents the 20 unit and he -- his demeanor towards the 21 people of the community, black people in the 22 community, I didn't condone, I didn't concur 23 so I explained that to him that, you know, 24 he was really -- I really don't know how to 25 describe it but he was really caught up in

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M. BOVELL

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being better than his predecessor which is Sergeant McEachin so he would do things that weren't right just to get arrests, just to produce arrests and that's what happened. It got worse and he would come in and he would tell us "Listen, we got to get 60 arrests for the month" and that's part of my conversation. I said to him, "How are you telling us to get 60 arrests for the month that's mandatory and we're going to get written up, but when you were the chief, you didn't even meet those goals, so how's that realistic? These are things that we sat down and spoke about. Again, I shared my opinion and I know from experience by sharing your opinion where it gets you but it was the right thing to do so I did it. I wasn't for it. I did not feel comfortable. Yes, I wanted my gold shield because I earned it. I am very productive but getting it this way and that way was just not right, you know, so he was doing anything to boost his arrests to exceed his arrests and do better than Sergeant McEachin and he didn't

97 M. BOVELL 1 2 care what it took. Did you make a report of this 3 conversation that you had with Sergeant 4 Fegan at any -- at some point? 5 THE WITNESS: When you say make 6 a record, a record of --7 You had this conversation --8 from Paragraph 46 it looks like you had this 9 conversation in July 2013 because that's 10 when the bag comment was made according to 11 the Complaint and then you had this other 12 conversation -- the same conversation with 13 Sergeant Fegan about wanting to transfer 14 15 out; right? Α. Yes. 16 In July of 2013 or shortly 17 thereafter, did you make a record of this 18 conversation? 19 I remember writing an MV-5 and 20 I don't remember anything else right now but 21 22 I remember writing an MV-5. And that would be an MV-5 to be 23 transferred out? 24 A. Yes, I remember writing that 25

| 1 | M. BOVELL 98 |
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| 2 | MV-5. |
| 3 | MS. BELLANTONI: Can we take a |
| 4 | five minute break? |
| 5 | MR. SWEENEY: Sure. |
| 6 | (Whereupon, a recess was taken |
| 7 | at 11:42 a.m., examination resumed at |
| 8 | 11:57 a.m.) |
| 9 | MR. SWEENEY: Mark these two as |
| 10 | the next exhibits. |
| 11 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 12 | U, Summons and Complaint, was marked |
| 13 | for Identification.) |
| 14 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 15 | V, MV-5 Officers Report, was marked |
| 16 | for Identification.) |
| 17 | Q. Officer Bovell, I'm going to |
| 18 | show you what's marked as Defendant's U |
| 19 | which is a copy, a filed copy of the Summons |
| 20 | and Complaint that you filed in this matter. |
| 21 | (Handed) |
| 22 | Q. If I could, I'm going to direct |
| 23 | your attention to look through it if you |
| 24 | want to verify it is a copy of the Summons |
| 25 | and Complaint. |
| | |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 99 |
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| 2 | A. It looks like it. |
| 3 | Q. I'm going to direct your |
| 4 | attention to Page 6 of the Complaint. I'm |
| 5 | looking at Paragraph 34 and 35. |
| 6 | Paragraph 34 I believe you'll agree |
| 7 | is the allegation where |
| 8 | |
| 9 | |
| 10 | |
| 11 | A. Okay. |
| 12 | Q. Then Paragraph 35 is the |
| 13 | allegation where Sergeant Fegan was aware |
| 14 | and consented to |
| 15 | do you see that? |
| 16 | A. Yes. |
| 17 | Q. I thought in your testimony you |
| 18 | said that that reference was incorrect and |
| 19 | it only referred to the paragraphs 37 |
| 20 | through 39 |
| 21 | |
| 22 | THE WITNESS: What is your |
| 23 | question again? |
| 24 | Q. My question is: Looking at |
| 25 | Paragraph 35, am I correct in understanding |
| | |

100 1 M. BOVELL 2 that your testimony before was accurate in which you said that Paragraph 35 doesn't 3 relate to Sergeant Fegan 4 5 6 7 Sergeant Fegan and Antonini are 8 9 dirty, they're corrupted. They know what 10 each other does. That paragraph is 11 indicating that Sergeant Fegan and Antonini work together. They do whatever it takes to 12 13 get arrest numbers, they abuse people of the city, black people of the city. They're 14 1.5 both corrupted. 16 With respect to Paragraph 35, Q. 17 you're saying now that does refer to Sergeant Fegan being aware that 18 19 20 Α. Yes, it refers to Sergeant -as I said, Sergeant Fegan is aware of 21 22 23 What is the basis of your 24 knowledge that Sergeant Fegan was aware of 25 that, did you witness that or --

101 1 M. BOVELL 2 Α. I witnessed Sergeant Fegan with 3 Q. 4 I got that. 5 I'm asking about the other numerous 6 7 occasions where it's alleged that Antonini 8 9 Α. Based on that observation, it's 10 safe to say that Sergeant Fegan is aware of Antonini's doing because they are a team. 11 They're partners together, so based on -- if 12 13 he condones that act and based on my 14 knowledge of previous acts and our 15 discussion Sergeant Fegan is also agreeing 16 to that type of behavior which is the reason 17 why -- one of the reasons why I left the 18 unit. 19 Your testimony as I understand 20 it is that 21 22 Therefore, he must have 23 known about all the 24 25 Well, I'm not saying every

102 1 M. BOVELL incident. There are incidents that occurred 2 that sergeant told to me by Antonini that 3 Sergeant Fegan wasn't present but it's safe 4 to say based on character that there are 5 some bad apples based on my observation of 6 7 what I've seen, two bad apples together make really bad apples. 8 9 Q. Turning to Paragraph 40 which is on the top of Page 7, it says "Officer 10 Bovell and other officers have repeatedly 11 12 observed Detective Antonini 13 14 15 16 ," is that correct? 17 18 Α. Yes. 19 So, you observed 20 before Sergeant Fegan was the 21 sergeant in charge of the narcotics unit? 22 Yes, I'm not the only one who 23 24 observed it but his behavior got worse once he realized he had an ally that someone he 25

M. BOVELL 103

worked with before.

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Q. When is the first time that you observed

I can't remember the date but observation other than him telling me what he had done. Antonini has a reputation of being aggressive in the streets apprehending suspects and dealing with CI's. He's like a caveman. He has no finesse in speaking to people. He's very aggressive. He gets his way by temptation. He's a big guy and some people are fearful of him. They nickname him Yonkers because Yonkers Police Department has a reputation of really being very aggressive so they believe he's from Yonkers when actually he's from New York City, transferred from New York City, so he's known -- on several occasions I've seen ow, what he would do

once what was happening, once the transition

1 M. BOVELL 104 was made as Sergeant Fegan as supervisor 2 what he began doing is stealing people's --3 other -- probably a little bit before that 4 5 under Sergeant McEachin. There was an issue where Antonini was taking people's CI's. 6 7 What I mean by that he was actually approaching other CI's that are in patrol, 8 9 other members of the unit and coercing them 10 and threatening them and basically intimidating them to flip, to work for him, 11 12 so that's stuff that was happening and even 13 I've experienced that myself right before 14 asking other units where he attempted to persuade and intimidate one of my CI's. 15 16 Q. With respect to the allegation 17 in Paragraph 40 of 18 19 indicated that that occurred both under Sergeant McEachin and Sergeant Fegan? 20 21 During that year, yes. Α. You observed, you personally 22 observed this? 23 24 I -- yes, I observed it. 25 didn't really know what was going on but I

105 M. BOVELL 1 2 observed this on several occasions, yes. Do you recall locations of 3 where this occurred? 4 In the narcotics office. Α. 5 In the narcotics office? Ο. 6 7 You mentioned in custody, if they're in custody I'm referring to in the 8 narcotics office. There are times when he's 9 in the back seat speaking to a CI and he 10 will rough them up. That's his way of 11 12 getting his answer. That's his MO. He's known for being rough in the streets, you 13 know, you could ask anyone who's probably 14 apprehended or locked up. He's known for 15 being really aggressive and intimidating. 16 And you observed this? 17 Yes, I observed this on several 18 Α. occasions. 19 Who did you report that 20 Ο. 21 misconduct to? THE WITNESS: When exactly? 22 MR. SWEENEY: I don't know, if 23 24 ever. I reported to Sergeant Fegan. 25 Α.

M. BOVELL 106 1 When did you report to Sergeant Q. 2 Fegan? 3 When myself and Sergeant Fegan 4 had that conversation where he told me to 5 get the fuck out and get the bag. I 6 7 reported that to Sergeant Fegan about his 8 demeanor. 9 When the slapping and punching 10 of the black male prisoners in his custody 11 occurred under Sergeant McEachin's watch, 12 did you report that to Sergeant McEachin? 13 Myself along with other officers who witnessed it, I don't know but 14 15 I know that one officer reported it to 16 another supervisor. 17 How do you know that? Ο. 18 Α. Because he told me. 19 What officer was that? Q. 20 Detective Patterson. Α. 21 When did he tell you this? Q. 22 Α. He told me years ago and 23 recently he called me and he asked me why 2.4 didn't you guys do anything when you saw 25 Antonini punching that guy in handcuffs and,

M. BOVELL 107

you know, he said that to me a couple weeks ago. He called me and he wanted to know what was going on and I says he had to give some type of -- he had to meet with the city attorney or something or my attorney. I said I have no idea, just tell the truth. He said he's going to tell the truth. He wanted to know what was going on. He called me and asked me what was going on. I haven't heard from him in years. I haven't heard from Detective Patterson from 2014 and he just called me recently.

- Q. Your belief that somebody in authority was put on notice of the punching and slapping of black male prisoners --
- I've been through the holding the bag trick where I'm the only one voicing myself. He spoke up. He told me he spoke up. He called me the other day just before he had the meeting with the city attorney or my attorney and he asked to tell the truth. All you have to do is tell the truth. He asked me why didn't you guys do anything

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M. BOVELL 108

when you saw Antonini punching that guy in handcuffs in custody. He asked me that repeatedly. He was really upset about it and he was upset about Antonini's actions. He said that Sergeant Fegan is dirty, Antonini is dirty, they're both working together and this needs to stop, the abuse needs to stop.

- Q. I take it from your response that Officer Patterson was upset with you for not intervening?
- A. No, Officer Patterson wanted to know what we did as a whole because I wasn't the only one who observed it. Detective Griffin was there. There were other officers in the office that were there so Antonini -- I'm sorry, Detective Patterson wanted to know why the other officers including myself or what did we do to address Antonini's behavior. I said to him, "Listen, you see what I'm doing." I spoke -- I told a supervisor what -- I told him what I did so and then he said what did the other

M. BOVELL 109 1 officers do. Myself and him weren't the 2 3 only ones who observed it and this wasn't 4 the first loading. Antonini is known for 5 putting hands on suspects, black people, males in the community. It's well known. 6 It's not a secret. We interview -- if 7 8 there's an investigation we interview 9 officers that will come to light. 10 In terms of what you -- the 0. 11 reports that you made of other officers' 12 misconduct, the only report that you made 13 was to Sergeant Fegan during this bag, take 14 out the bag discussion in July of 2013? 15 THE WITNESS: Only report I 16 made? 17 MR. SWEENEY: Yes. 18 No, not exactly; this lawsuit, 19 as well, that's one of the reasons --20 MR. SWEENEY: I'm referring to 21 when you were still a detective. 22 Only report -- well, I reported 23 -- my job as a subordinate is to report it 24 to a supervisor and I did my job. There's 25 so much I can -- and I realized that I was,

110 M. BOVELL 1 you know, doing the right thing doesn't 2 necessarily get the right results. 3 To be clear, though, the only 4 0. report of another officers' misconduct that 5 occurred in the detective bureau that you 6 made was this July 2013 report to Sergeant 7 8 Fegan? THE WITNESS: When you say 9 report, report to another officer or 10 report to a supervisor? 11 MR. SWEENEY: Report either to 12 a supervisor, Internal Affairs or 13 someone else in the chain of command. 14 15 Α. Oh, yes, chain of command. From what I remember, was Sergeant Fegan at 16 the time. 17 The only report that you made 18 about Detective Antonini's misconduct was to 19 Sergeant Fegan in July of 2013? 20 Approximately that I remember, 21 22 that I remember. Going back to Page 6 of this 2.3 Complaint, Officer Bovell, about the black 24 female suspect and \$100, that's Paragraphs 25

1 M. BOVELL 111 2 37 through 39. Do you recall -- you don't recall the 3 name of that suspect? 4 5 Not right now. Α. 6 Do you recall the location of 7 where this occurred? 8 9 10 11 12 13 Sergeant Fegan was a part of 14 Q. this allegation of misconduct. 15 Did you make a report of this 16 happening to any superior, any chain of 17 command? 18 19 THE WITNESS: Other than 20 Sergeant Fegan? Well, Sergeant Fegan is part of 21 the misconduct; right? That's what you --22 23 No, at that time, no. I was 24 scared to death to say anything else. From 25 what I had experienced and I saw how things

| 1 | M. BOVELL 112 |
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| 2 | in the police department logically worked, I |
| 3 | was fearful of what would happen next so I |
| 4 | things were going in a bad direction. |
| 5 | Q. Did you make any either a memo |
| 6 | book or any other record of this occurrence |
| 7 | |
| 8 | A. I don't remember. |
| 9 | Q. Did you make any memo book |
| 10 | entries or any other records of the |
| 11 | incidents where Detective Antonini would |
| 12 | routinely make racist comments? |
| 13 | THE WITNESS: To which |
| 14 | particular incident? |
| 15 | Q. Paragraph 32 says "Sergeant |
| 16 | Fegan and Detective Antonini routinely made |
| 17 | racial comments." |
| 18 | I think you observed some of these; |
| 19 | right? |
| 20 | A. Yes, I did. |
| 21 | Q. Did you make any record entries |
| 22 | at the time? |
| 23 | A. I don't remember. |
| 24 | Q. |
| 25 | did you make any |
| | |

113 M. BOVELL 1 2 records of those incidents 3 4 I don't remember. 5 Α. If you had such a record, you 6 7 would have produced that to your attorney; correct? 8 Yes, as far as I remember, yes. 9 Paragraph 42 through 45, that's 10 Q. on Page 7, 42 indicates "Sergeant Fegan was 11 aware and condoned Officer Antonini's racist 12 conduct," do you see that? 13 Yes. 14 Α. And that's because you observed 15 that happening? 16 Yes, there's an -- there's also 17 a few incidents. We had arson in the third 18 in 2013 and it was coming up on the end of 19 the whole event, so Antonini -- we were 20 21 directed to let them know that the event is over and people need to back up their 22 stalls, the vendors, so we were in the 23 section where the guys -- there were a lot 24 of black people in the community but I knew 25

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M. BOVELL 114

a lot of people from the community, people that knew me, as well, and the type of officer that I am. Antonini -- we were directed to tell everyone where to go. Antonini became overly aggressive and started shouting and screaming at people telling everyone to get the fuck out of here, buckle down. He began speaking really condescending towards the black people in the community. I assume that he was directed by another white officer, Sergeant Fegan -- by Sergeant Fegan and by Lieutenant, I believe it was Lieutenant Adonaro -- Captain Adonaro. I'm not quite sure what other superior officer was there but we were directed by both that superior officer and Sergeant Fegan to clear it out and Antonini became overly aggressive and people from the community started looking at me and saying "You got to calm him down, You got to calm him down. You got to stop that." He started saying "Get the F out now." He started screaming. He was showing off to Sergeant Fegan basically I'll

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M. BOVELL 115

do whatever you need to do which is what he does, so later on when it was over and people left and they looked at me "What's wrong with your guy? He can't speak to people like that." I told them sorry and I said to Antonini, "Why you did that, man?" And he looked at me and he said "I don't know what happened. I don't know what happened," so that was his response. I said, "Why you ask and why you talking to people like that?" And he says "I don't know what happened." Sergeant Fegan was right there. They did nothing. If they're my supervisors and they're not intervening, they don't find anything wrong with his conduct, who the hell am I, who the hell am I to speak over him and to act like a supervisor.

- Q. Did Detective Antonini use racist language?
- A. Well, the way he spoke "Get the fuck out of here, you guys need to go now," you know, he only acts that way towards black people. When speaking to white people

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M. BOVELL 116

which I have observed, we have observed, it's very demeaning. Yes, he spoke very condescending towards black people and he told them "Get the fuck out, lock it down now, now, now" and he started hitting on the -- he started hitting on the stalls or something, slapping his hands, you know, so that was disturbing to witness. Other people from the community saw that. They looked at me and I felt I couldn't do anything really because the supervisor is right there seeing this, you know, so that means who am I like -- but I did say something to him later on. I said, "Listen, why you did that?" Because I feel obligated, "Why you did that?" He just looked at me and said "I don't really know what came over me." That was his response.

- Q. Paragraph 43 says "Sergeant
 Fegan often made discriminatory and
 condescending remarks to the black officers
 in the narcotics unit."
- A. Yup, my observation the way he interacted with myself and Officer Griffin

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M. BOVELL 117

in comparison to white officers in the office he was very abusive, very condescending and spoke down to us as if we were nothing, as if we were minuscule and worth nothing of no value.

- Q. Can you give me an example of that?
- For instance, he would use Α. profanity like fuck and why the hell, you know, he would speak aggressively loud and say "Why the fuck did you do this? What's this?" He would interact with myself and Officer Griffin and Griffin is really more laid back. He don't -- but when speaking with a white officer like -- who was it at the time -- Officer Light, he was very vague with it. He didn't really raise his voice at all. Whenever Officer Light took a day off -- every Thursday he will go bowling with Captain Adonaro because Captain Adonaro was really good friends with Officer Light's father who is an attorney so every Thursday and Friday Officer Light will get off and go bowling while we're at work, so he was very

1 M. BOVELL 118 2 favorable to the white officers and really forced because at the time myself and 3 4 Officer Griffin were very productive and 5 known for being very productive, Officer Griffin especially, so he will push us to 6 7 get arrests because we were very resourceful. He needed arrest numbers so 8 9 that he could boost his credibility and to 10 be better than his predecessor, Sergeant McEachin. 11 12 Ο. Other than using profanity and 13 I guess the tone of voice, was there 14 anything else that was discriminatory and 15 condescending about the way Sergeant Fegan talked to black officers? 16 17 Well, he spoke about people in the community like he was a white nigger 18 19 like he was safe. 20 To you? Q. 21 Not to me, in my presence and 22 he used the word, they both exchanged 23 dialogue as if people was nothing and 24 they're superior, so that was demeanor of 25 Fegan and Antonini. They spoke very --

119 M. BOVELL 1 2 well, in my presence and on two occasions that I can remember while driving and I'm in 3 the back, that's how they felt, they felt 4 like people in the community were shit from 5 how they expressed it and people weren't 6 7 worth anything. Other than Officer Light Ο. 8 getting out early on Thursday to go bowling 9 with Captain Adonaro, are there any other 10 examples of how white officers were treated 11 12 better than black officers? THE WITNESS: By Sergeant 13 14 Fegan? MR. SWEENEY: Fegan, right. 15 He spoke -- he just spoke down 16 Α. to the black officers in the office based on 17 my observation. He spoke down to us and he 18 19 pushed us harder than he pushed the white officers and he spoke more aggressive and 20 used profanity than the white officers. As 21 of that day when he said "Get the fucking 22 23 bag up," he never spoke that to Antonini, 24 not Light, you know, that's how he spoke to

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us and to me.

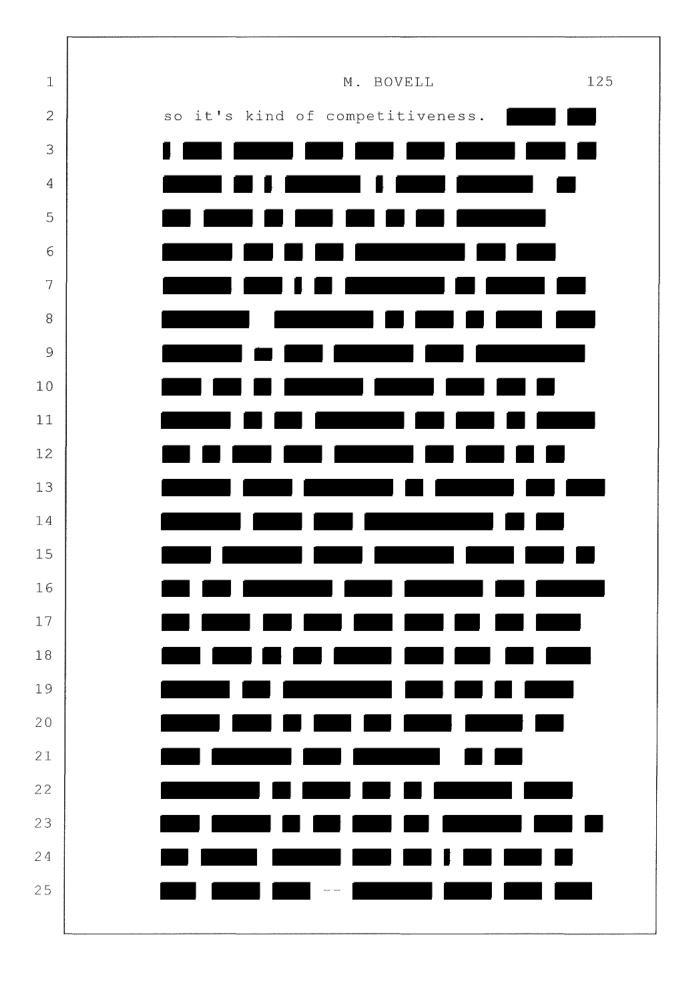
| 1 | M. BOVELL 120 |
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| 2 | Q. What did the bag contain? |
| 3 | A. When you do a search warrant we |
| 4 | have to bring along tools to assist us in |
| 5 | our work in gathering evidence, so the bag |
| 6 | contained gloves, evidence, materials to |
| 7 | collect evidence, stuff like that. |
| 8 | Q. It wasn't a bag of clothes? |
| 9 | A. I can't remember that, no, not |
| 10 | that I remember. I don't remember. |
| 11 | A bag of clothes? I don't remember |
| 12 | that. I believe it was a bag of evidence, |
| 13 | tools that we need to do a job when we do a |
| 14 | search warrant. |
| 15 | Q. This is Defendant's Exhibit V. |
| 16 | (Handed) |
| 17 | MR. SWEENEY: I believe it's |
| 18 | bate stamped. |
| 19 | Q. Do you recognize Exhibit V? |
| 20 | A. Yes. |
| 21 | Q. What is it? |
| 22 | A. It looks like an MV-5 that I |
| 23 | wrote the 29th of July 2013. |
| 24 | Q. Is that the MV-5 regarding your |
| 25 | transfer from the detective unit at that |
| | 1 |

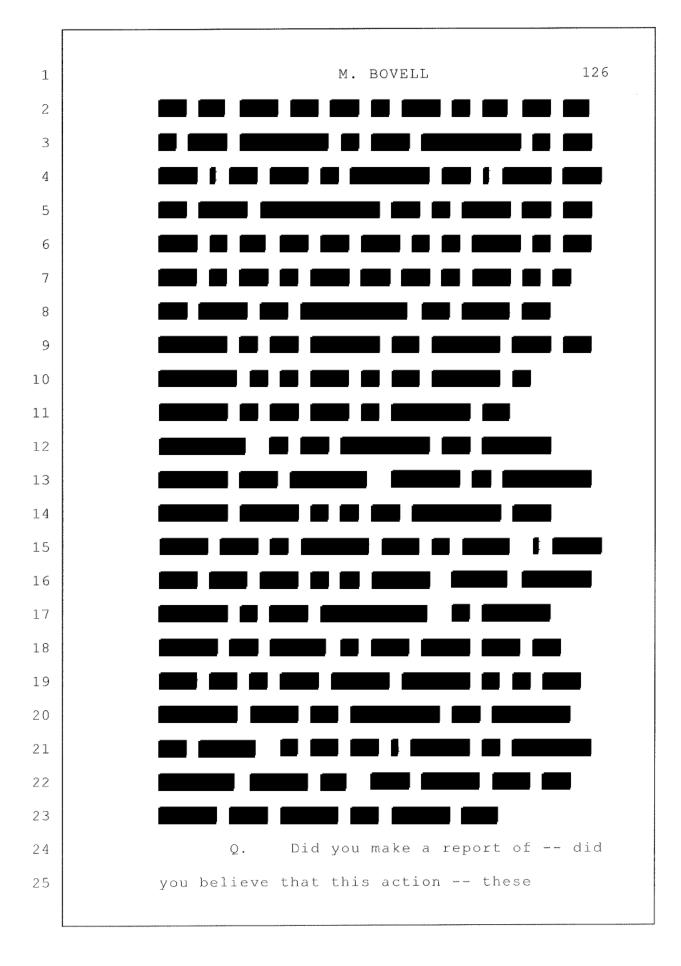
| 1 | M. BOVELL 121 |
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| 2 | time? |
| 3 | A. Yeah, this was the first MV-5 |
| 4 | when, I believe when we he told me to pick |
| 5 | up the fucking bag and we had a |
| 6 | conversation, a discussion about what was |
| 7 | happening. |
| 8 | Q. And that was the MV-5 that was |
| 9 | withdrawn? |
| 10 | A. I believe so. Yes, it looks |
| 11 | like it. |
| 12 | Q. There came a time when you |
| 13 | generated another MV-5 to be transferred out |
| 14 | of the detective bureau following Exhibit V? |
| 15 | A. There came another time when I |
| 16 | subsequent to this where I saw things |
| 17 | were getting worse and I asked to request |
| 18 | out of the narcotics unit. |
| 19 | Q. Did you fill out an MV-5 for |
| 20 | that, as well? |
| 21 | A. Yes, I sent it. I believe I |
| 22 | sent it by email, as well. I copied it to |
| 23 | Captain Adonaro, Sergeant Fegan and someone |
| 24 | else. I don't remember. |
| 25 | MR. SWEENEY: Off the record. |
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M. BOVELL (Whereupon, a discussion was held off the record.) Q. Officer Bovell, there's an allegation Number 52 in your Complaint which it says that is that correct? Α. Yes. Q. He spoke about it freely. Α. Q. He spoke about it freely? Α.

M. BOVELL Is Captain Adonaro a racist officer? I don't know. My interactions Α. with Captain Adonaro are limited, you know, so I really don't correspond with Captain Adonaro much but other officers did so I really don't know. Incidents 53 through 58 of your Q.

1 M. BOVELL 124 2 Complaint or 59 of your Complaint allege 3 4 5 б 7 Α. Yes, definitely. I think you reference in 8 Paragraph 53 that this incident occurred in 9 10 early August 2013; is that correct? Approximately. In 2013, this 11 12 is after the meeting initially that I had with -- I believe it was after the initial 13 14 meeting that I had with Sergeant Fegan where 15 we discussed everything that was going on. Can you describe for me what 16 Q. 17 you mean by these allegations that 18 19 20 Sergeant Fegan was concerned by Α. 21 getting arrest numbers boosted and in that 22 meeting I said to him, "How are you going to 23 push it to 60 arrests when your unit in the 24 past never achieved that?" There's a black 25 book that has the arrests in the office and





1 M. BOVELL 127 2 actions constituted misconduct? This is not just misconduct. 3 This is just -- this is above my head. If a 4 5 supervisor could do this, there's no telling 6 what a supervisor could do. This is power that -- I'm the little man on the totem pole 7 and it's been evident throughout my career 8 9 and a person of my character that stands up 1.0 for what is right and when I voiced it, it's 11 abuse of power and this is what happens in 12 the Mount Vernon Police Department. 13 I take it from your response 14 that you did not make a report of this misconduct to any superior in your chain of 1.5 command? 16 1.7 Not that I remember but I spoke about it with Officer Griffin or Detective 18 19 Griffin. We spoke about it. 2.0 Detective or Officer Griffin is Ο. 21 not your superior, is he? 22 No, but he's a member of the 23 unit that observed the same incident and 24 others were there, as well; Garcia. I don't 25 know if they made a report.

128 M. BOVELL 1 2 Q. You don't know if they made a report but you didn't make a report? 3 Not that I remember. Α. 4 In Paragraph 60 of your 5 Q. Complaint it says "November 2013 Officer 6 7 Bovell was constructively discharged from the narcotics unit based on Sergeant Fegan 8 in the units hostile work environment by 9 weightily over impressive discrimination 10 with black police officers and the black 11 12 residents of Mount Vernon," is that correct? I believe so. Α. 13 Were there any other reasons 14 Q. that you believe you were constructively 15 discharged? 16 THE WITNESS: Could you 1.7 elaborate on that? 18 19 MS. BELLANTONI: I'm going to object only because we know that he 20 didn't lodge a complaint. It's legal 21 terminology, so to the extent that he 2.2 understands legal terminology he can 23 24 answer the question. MR. SWEENEY: Maybe I can ask 25

129 M. BOVELL 1 it this way if counsel doesn't 2 3 object. As I understand constructive 4 discharge means a person is forced 5 off the job, in other words --6 THE WITNESS: Forced? 7 MR. SWEENEY: You quit under 8 pressure, you have no option but to 9 10 quit. Well, based on the type of 11 officer that I am, yes, I am motivated to 12 some extent by ambition but my character 13 sees that and I had to make a choice based 14 on the person, the individual who I am what 15 do I want, what do I want to achieve and is 16 17 it worth it to condone this type of behavior and being a part of that, so I channeled 18 myself that towards something more to my 19 education, so I started attending school, I 20 tried to focus on a positive note and I said 21 22 I can't be part of this anymore because this regime. It's a regime and there's no way --23 you can't win, so I bowed -- I tried to 24 gracefully bow out without creating any

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130 M. BOVELL 1 waves. 2 Did you make any record, a memo 3 book entry or any other record of the 4 5 6 I don't remember but if you 7 check the reports of people who were 8 arrested and interviewed them and did the 9 investigation I'm pretty sure they can tell 10 you who they bought the drugs from. If you 11 do that, they will tell you who they bought 12 the drugs from and on top of that that will 13 show who the CI is. 14 But you didn't make any memo 15 Q. book entries or records or notes? 16 A. No, they're in the narcotic 17 18 unit. Well, on your home commuter or 19 Q. otherwise, did you make any records or 20 reports of this activity? 21 I don't remember. I don't 22 remember. I can't recall right now. 23 Paragraph 62 says that "Prior Q. 24 to your reassignment to patrol Detective 25

M. BOVELL Antonini told you in substance "Don't you know what's going on here?" He then pointed to his skin and said it's a race war black and white." Α. Yes. And you were present for that conversation? Yeah, that's the dialogue we Α. had between us. Again, we -- he felt comfortable gloating in my presence. I don't know why. He spoke of things freely because he felt untouchable but that's his demeanor and he was comfortable so he identified that it's a race war.

132 M. BOVELL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 Did you make a report to anyone 9 Q. in your chain of command regarding 10 11 another officer was blamed? 12 No, I did not say anything. 13 Q. Why not? 14 As I was scared that that stuff 15 Α. is serious business. At the time, my mind 16 set based on what I experienced, I was 17 scared like everybody else, yeah, I was 18 scared as anybody else so there was no --19 there is no -- in that situation, there's no 20 21 sure back, you know, or support the way the 22 administration is being ran. Who was the administration at 23 that period of time that you made the 24 25 initiative?

M. BOVELL 133

A. I don't recall, but I know when he said this was a race war he was telling me that basically the whites have power over the blacks and they're taking control over the police department. That's what he was telling me that it's a race war. So, we were discussing about people in the position as Sergeant Fisher and he said to me "You want to know what's happening? It's a race war." So, he's identifying he's on the white side and he's going to take over and he's for that, he's for them.

- O. For white people?
- A. For the regime, the white regime, the officers that are in power;

 Sergeant -- then Sergeant Fisher, now

 Lieutenant Fisher, Sergeant Fegan, Adonaro,

 you know, that's the regime.
- Q. And the regime is under the command of an African-American Mayor and an African-American police commissioner?
- A. I don't remember who the commissioner was at the time. I believe it was Raynor and also I believe the mayor was

134 M. BOVELL 1 Davis, Mayor Davis at the time. 2 3 0. Mayor Davis is an African-American mayor; right, and 4 Commissioner Raynor is an African-American? 5 Yes, the power -- yes, that's Α. 6 what was happening under that leadership. 7 Those white officers, those 8 white lieutenants reported to those chain of command individuals? 10 11 I guess. I really don't know how things function but in the Mount Vernon 12 Police Department things aren't done 13 logically. They run on power, retaliation 14 15 and how people feel, what circle you're in, you know, your race, you're lease is to a 16 17 particular fraternity. This is how it That's everyday business of the 18 police department. I can only speak about 19 Mount Vernon Police Department. 20 Paragraph 63 through 72 talks 21 about allegations that you did not get your 22 detective shield after serving more than 18 23 months in the detective bureau and that 24 25 other white officers, for example, did; is

M. BOVELL 135

2 that correct?

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- A. I believe so, yes.
- Q. If you know, who has the ability to promote police officers, what level is that done at?
- You know what, I don't know. really don't know. All I know is based on what I observed and that's what I can speak of. I don't know who makes the decision. can only assume based on what I observed like who is part of a group, who, you know, that's just how it works because I, myself and other black officers working in that capacity for over 24, 30 months and did not receive our detective shields but other white officers like Detective DeBarro, he got his gold shield in 11 months. Sergeant Fegan looked at me and said "Oh, I got mine in 12 months." Another Detective -- Captain Hunt, she didn't have no experience and she was given a gold shield. Obviously, the right thing -- they can give the gold shield but I don't really know who makes these decisions.

136 M. BOVELL 1 Do you know if the mayor has 2 any involvement in --3 Α. I don't know. The Mayor does 4 not run the police department really, you 5 know, at that time. The people who are in 6 the police department runs the police 7 8 department and reports to the mayor so I don't know how information is transferred, 9 you know, one person says dog, the other one 10 says cat. That's how things are, so I 11 really don't know what information the mayor 12 is privy to but the people who are in the 13 police department runs the police 14 15 department. Does the police commissioner 16 run the police department? 17 I would assume so. 18 Does the police commissioner 19 Q. 20 have any involvement in the awarding of detective shields to police officers? 21 22 Well, he's the chain of command, you know, police commissioner has 23 the captain that reports to him and he has 24 to make a decision based on their report. 25

M. BOVELL 137

> It's all information, you know, the information is if you're the captain or police commissioner and your captains and lieutenants are not giving you the right information, so it starts from who's making these reports and who's manipulating, if so, manipulating their reports to gain their advantage or people who they like so I don't really know.

- Do you know of any white Q. officers who served more than 18 months in the detective bureau that did not get their detective shield?
 - Not that I know of. Α.

he was

and some supervisors didn't felt that he shouldn't have a job but he was still

connected and

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138 M. BOVELL 1 2 , so I really don't 3 know. Things don't work logically there. 4 It's based on your group, who you belong to, 5 your race, you know, fraternity or who's 6 liked, so you have to be part of the regime 7 in order to get rewarded. 8 When you say regime, you're 9 Ο. referring to white officers? 10 Well, right now they're are 11 Α. 12 white supervisors -- well, at that time there were white supervisors that ran the 13 department and made the decisions so, you 14 know --15 Paragraph 73 says "The 16 Ο. department through Deputy Commissioner Burke 17 and Captain Goldman continues to promote 18 less qualified white officers over black 19 20 officers," is that correct? A. Yes, when Detective Burke --21 I'm sorry, Commissioner Burke came on, he 22 23 has a son that was on probation or just got off probation. Once he became commissioner 24 he immediately promoted his son, white 25

M. BOVELL 139

officer to the task force unit. A lot of black officers were upset about it and then he was rescinded. So, you know, again, another abuse of power because I'm the commissioner, I have my white son and I can put him in any unit that I want to but other black officers took offense to that who had more experience and time on to that promotion and I guess at some point he was rescinded and then he transferred over to the county, County Police. He got him transferred based on his affiliations.

Q. Other than the example of the Deputy Commissioner Burke's son who did not actually get transferred to the task force, are there any other examples to support your allegation that Deputy Commissioner Burke and Captain Goldman continue to promote less qualified non black officers?

MS. BELLANTONI: Are you saying that he was not actually transferred to the task force and then was rescinded or are you saying that's his testimony?

140 1 M. BOVELL 2 Your testimony was that that 0. 3 assignment was rescinded? Α. He was assigned and then he was 4 5 immediately taken out of the unit because 6 other black officers were upset about it. 7 Ο. How long did Burke's kid serve in this assignment? 8 9 I don't remember but it did Α. 10 happen and a lot of people were crying, were 11 upset about that order and shortly after 12 that he transferred him over to County 13 Police. 14 Q. Other than that example, are 15 there any other examples where Commissioner 16 Burke and Captain Goldman continued to 17 promote less qualified, non black officers 18 over black officers? Based on information from other 19 Α. 2.0 officers, yes. I'll give you an example. 21 From Officer Lee, a female officer, black 22 officer that's known to be highly productive 23 in the police department, she's been past over numerous times. She's been past over 24 25 numerous times and even though she's a black

141 M. BOVELL 1 female and highly productive. Her belief 2 also is because her association with me 3 because I was her FTO, you know, I trained 4 her. She was very productive and 5 unfortunately in the police department when 6 7 you're productive, you have so-called haters, people who actually are upset about 8 your productivity and they raise questions. 9 She was past over. She expressed that to me 10 on repeated occasions. She told me that she 11 expressed that to Sergeant McEachin and 12 Sergeant McEachin concurred what's going on, 13 14 so yes. 15 Q. As I understand your response, you're talking about an assignment for 16 Officer Lee to another position like to task 17 force or narcotics; correct? 18 I'm talking about where other 19 Α. less experienced officers were promoted over 2.0 experienced tenured officers. White 21 22 officers were promoted over experienced black officers. 23 MR. SWEENEY: That's my 24 question for you. I'm getting 25

142 M. BOVELL 1 confused. 2 Is an assignment to task force 3 or narcotics, is that a promotion or is that 4 5 an assignment? That is actually considered a Α. 6 promotion. 7 Ο. That's a promotion? 8 Oh, yeah. If you're promoted 9 to task force or detective bureau, that's a 10 promotion. That's going up the totem pole. 11 Do you get an enhanced rate, 12 more money for task force and narcotics? 13 You're in the detective Α. 14 capacity, investigator capacity so there 15 will be a time where if you meet that 18 16 months criteria based on your productivity 17 then you'll be promoted to detective. Task 18 force, task force is actually a grade up 19 20 from patrol. It's actually a grade up in your career showing that you have 21 exemplified the abilities in patrol that 22 you're productive somewhat and it bumps you 23 up, so it points you in the direction of the 24 detective bureau so you go from task force 25

143 M. BOVELL 1 to the detective bureau which is what made 2 me GIU which is general investigation of 3 narcotics. 4 As I understand it, you asked Q. 5 out of the detective bureau in 2014; 6 7 correct? THE WITNESS: Was it 2014? 8 2013? You transferred out of Ο. 9 the detective bureau for the last time. 10 The last time, that was in --11 Α. maybe the first in 2013 under Sergeant 12 Fegan's supervision and it was commenced on 13 -- executed on January 1st, 2014. 14 15 Q. Is that the phrase "asking out?" 16 Asking out -- well, I asked to 17 -- based on what was happening I asked to 18 leave the narcotics unit. 19 Do you know of any other 20 Q. officer, black or white, who was asked out 21 22 like you did and still received his detective shield? 23 A. No, not that I know of that 24 25 asked out.

M. BOVELL 144

Q. Right.

A. I know that there was another officer that had similar time that I did, over 18 months, Officer Briley, B-R-I-L-E-Y. He was in the narcotics unit with myself and Detective Griffin and Detective Patterson. He then went to general investigations where he accrued that time and he asked out because he told me that, you know, they're not doing the right thing. He doesn't see the right thing happening, so he asked out and we were actually reassigned the same time to patrol and we had several discussions about that.

- Q. Did he get his detective shield?
- A. No, but as soon as we asked out they made -- they made other detectives.

 From what my understanding what I was told that other black officers that had exceeded time, accrued the time over 18 months such as Officer Griffin, Officer Jones, other white officers, they were made in January -- received a detective shield right after we

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M. BOVELL

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asked out. And my understanding is Officer Jones, she was preparing herself to ask out of the unit, as well. She was in the detective bureau and she was upset about why is it that the right thing is not happening, why are the white officers getting their shields and we have to wait over 18 months and she began to make noise about it and due to her affiliations or her husband is a black political leader in the community. The supervisor of management became a little nervous. So, unlike myself and Detective Briley, she was privy to information. She received a phone call from the political office. They said don't ask out the unit because you're going to get made in January. Myself and Detective Briley wasn't privy to that information but they were fearful that they may have people due to her husband's influence in the community may have a backlash on the department and they didn't want to that be publicized. So again, it comes down to your affiliation, what groups you belong to, whether you're white or black

146 M. BOVELL 1 or whether you're part of a fraternity. 2 That's the only way -- that's the only way 3 you're protected in this police department. 4 Officer Jones, as I understand 5 Ο. it, is an African-American female? 6 Yes, she is. Α. 7 Ο. Her husband is an 8 African-American leader in the community? 9 Yes. Α. 10 She benefited from that Ο. 11 12 relationship through her husband? She benefited -- that instance 13 that time, yes, she was upset that she 14 hadn't received her gold shield and she was 15 about to ask out the unit like we both did, 16 Officer Briley and myself and they pulled 17 her to the side because they were afraid 18 that her husband would get involved. 19 20 Because of her husband's political influence, her husband possesses on the 21 22 community, the police department didn't want that backlash, so politically she was pulled 23 to the side and given privy to some 24 information. They said "Don't worry, stay 25

147 M. BOVELL 1 where you are. You're about to get made" 2 which is why she did not ask out of the unit 3 at the same time we did. 4 Did she share that information Q. 5 with you? 6 Oh, yeah, she shared that 7 information with me. 8 But after the fact, after she 0. 9 made detective? 10 After she made detective, yes, 11 after she made detective. I believe so. 12 She didn't tell you before Q. 13 "Hang in there, don't transfer out?" 14 15 Α. No, no, that was after because it was a surprise to us that that occurred 16 so it was really a brush in the face, you 17 know, like retaliatory. All right, you guys 18 left here, boom, so we didn't know that. We 19 20 had no idea that was happening. O. I think I already asked it and 21 22 I think you gave me an answer but I just want to be clear: Regardless of skin color, 23 black or white, do you know of any officers 24 that asked out like you did and Briley did 25

148 M. BOVELL 1 that later got their detective shield? 2 Right now, not that I know of, 3 not that I know of right now. I don't 4 5 remember. There's allegations in the Ο. 6 7 Complaint 75 through 77 that talk about an officer that was involved in a motor vehicle 8 accident -- sorry, 76 and 77, an officer was 9 involved in a motor vehicle accident. He 10 11 received harsh discipline under you or the way it's alleged; is that fair to say? 12 THE WITNESS: Which officer is 13 this? 14 You said "Defendant Burke 15 Ο. disparagingly reprimanded a black officer 16 for being in a motor vehicle accident under 17 the local patrol zones by taking 16 hours of 18 accrued time." 19 20 Α. Okay. Then the next allegation 77 21 says "When the black officer appealed the 22 disciplinary action, Deputy Commissioner 23 Burke retaliated against him by suspending 24 25 the black officer for seven days without pay

M. BOVELL 149 1 while other white officers received a lesser 2 3 penalty for the same type of conduct." 4 Α. Okay. Do you know what officer that's 5 referring to? 6 I don't remember but I remember 7 having that conversation with -- that 8 particular officer was telling me that 9 information -- yes, , actually. 10 11 , now What you wrote in here on 12 paragraph 76 and 77 is what officer or now 13 told you about what 14 15 happened? Approximately from what he told 16 17 He told me that he wasn't involved -he was involved in an accident, no fault of 18 his and because the administration does not 19 like him, the administration does not like 20 That's what he told me and 21 based on observation and he challenged that, 22 the appeal, the rule, whatever. He went to 23 a department hearing overseen by 24 Commissioner Burke and because of that he 25

| M. BOVELL 150 |
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| told me that he was told if he appealed it, |
| that it would be a harsher fine or |
| disciplinary which subsequently occurred so |
| he voiced to me that there's nothing fair in |
| the police department and that if you stand |
| up and you make any noise and cause any |
| waves then the power that maybe will rule |
| against you if you go against the grain. |
| Q. Deputy Commissioner Burke was |
| the deputy to which police commissioner, do |
| you know; is that Commissioner Raynor? |
| A. Yup, that's correct. |
| Q. Commissioner Raynor is an |
| African-American commissioner? |
| A. I believe so. I'm not sure. |
| He's really light skinned. |
| Q. With respect to your own |
| situation and detective shield issue, have |
| you filed any Article 78 or other legal |
| proceedings over that? |
| THE WITNESS: Other than this |
| suit? |
| MR. SWEENEY: Other than this |
| suit. |
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| 1 | M. BOVELL 151 |
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| 2 | THE WITNESS: Well, are you |
| 3 | asking what have I done? |
| 4 | Q. Have you filed any other civil |
| 5 | lawsuits in State Supreme Court? |
| 6 | A. I consulted with our PBA |
| 7 | attorney at the time which was Greg Addison. |
| 8 | MS. BELLANTONI: I'm just going |
| 9 | to remind you your privileged |
| 10 | communications with your PBA attorney |
| 11 | and that you have no obligation to |
| 12 | waive the substance of your |
| 13 | communications. |
| 14 | THE WITNESS: Okay. |
| 15 | Q. And Greg Addison as I |
| 16 | understand it he's not an attorney, he's PBA |
| 17 | president; right? |
| 18 | A. Yes, he's PBA president. |
| 19 | MS. BELLANTONI: Then that |
| 20 | privilege will not apply, so |
| 21 | Q. He's a sergeant with the police |
| 22 | department? |
| 23 | A. Yeah, he's a now sergeant. He |
| 24 | |
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| 1 | M. BOVELL 152 |
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| 2 | Q. Did the PBA file a grievance on |
| 3 | his behalf? |
| 4 | A. I don't know. Myself along |
| 5 | with other black officers were have |
| 6 | consulted with him. I consulted with |
| 7 | Sergeant Fegan at the time and, you know, I |
| 8 | don't know what happened. They said they |
| 9 | were going to address it and nothing |
| 10 | happened. |
| 11 | Q. Did you file your own grievance |
| 12 | individually? |
| 13 | THE WITNESS: Grievance as far |
| 14 | as? |
| 15 | MR. SWEENEY: The fact you |
| 16 | didn't get a detective shield after |
| 17 | spending 18 months in the detective |
| 18 | assignment. |
| 19 | A. I just consulted with Greg |
| 20 | Addison, PBA president at the time and he |
| 21 | said that they're going to address it. |
| 22 | MR. SWEENEY: Off the record. |
| 23 | (Whereupon, a recess was taken |
| 24 | at 1:06 p.m., examination resumed at |
| 25 | 1:40 p.m.) |
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| 1 | M. BOVELL 153 |
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| 2 | MR. SWEENEY: Can you mark |
| 3 | these, please. |
| 4 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 5 | W, Email 2-12-13, was marked for |
| 6 | Identification.) |
| 7 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 8 | X, Significant Enforcement Activity |
| 9 | Report, was marked for |
| 10 | Identification.) |
| 11 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 12 | Y, Handwritten List, was marked for |
| 13 | Identification.) |
| 14 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 15 | Z, News Article, was marked for |
| 16 | Identification.) |
| 17 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 18 | AA, News Article, was marked for |
| 19 | Identification.) |
| 20 | (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit |
| 21 | BB, Log Details, was marked for |
| 22 | Identification.) |
| 23 | Q. Officer Bovell, before we broke |
| 24 | there was some testimony in part as to |
| 25 | certain promotions or assignments or |
| | |

154 M. BOVELL 1 decisions being made by kind of who you know 2 and I think you referred to it as the regime 3 and you also said personal relationships. 4 Can you give me some examples of what 5 types of personal relationships you were 6 referring to? 7 THE WITNESS: Can you repeat 8 that again? 9 I thought you testified before 10 we broke that sometimes decisions, promotion 11 12 decisions or assignments or opportunities were driven by who an officer may know; do 13 you recall that? 14 15 Yeah, it's all the time. That Α. 16 happens all the time. I think we used 17 as an example of -- she had a special 18 relationship with her husband which she 19 20 benefitted from. Yeah, you can even use as 21 22 promotions, civil service promotions. 23 People are passed over on the list, you know, people are passed over on the list. 24 You could be number one, you could still be 25

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M. BOVELL 155

passed over. You could be number two and you could still be passed over and it's about if people didn't like you or if you're part of a group, it doesn't matter how much you score. For an example of this is that there are three sergeants that passed the lieutenants list during that time I got injured and Sergeant Sexton, Sergeant McEachin and Sergeant Scott, they passed. They're white officers and they were passed over, you know, unfortunately a white lieutenant was promoted and Sergeant Fisher was promoted allegedly over the weekend when the mayor wasn't around. So, when the mayor wasn't around was promoted to lieutenant on an applied list so, you know, that does happen.

- Q. Those three African-American sergeants that you mentioned were all as I understand were promoted to lieutenant?
- A. Under new management recently. They were promoted not under management that I -- while I was under when I got injured and everything.

156 M. BOVELL 1 In terms of groups, can you Q. 2 give me an example of what groups people 3 belonged to that would make a difference for 4 them? 5 If you're white or black. Α. 6 That's an example. If you're white or 7 black, you know, you're more favored if 8 you're white. When I just started this job 9 in 2007 they were arguing over black 10 supervisors compared to white supervisors. 11 There were no black lieutenants when I 12 started this job in 2007, you know, 13 eventually under Commissioner Carbell, a 14 black commissioner, that changed a little 15 bit gradually. Blacks or females started 16 getting promoted and so forth. So, yeah, 17 it's been going on for some time. 18 Besides race, white or black or Ο. 19 20 Hispanic, I assume, are there any other groups that could make a difference that you 2.1 belong to? 22 If you like Antonini and you do 2.3 what they want you to do, do what they wants 24

you to do, you know, you beat up somebody,

157 M. BOVELL 1 you get a job done, whatever they wants you 2 to do, you know, then you're a favorite. 3 Whatever -- if you're regarded as within the 4 circle, if you do what they want you to do 5 with no objection even if it's wrong. 6 7 Is being part of a mason group, is that a group that would make a difference 8 for promotions or --9 I don't know. I don't know, at 10 Α. least if that's what you're telling me. 11 MR. SWEENEY: I'm just asking 12 the question. 13 I don't know. Α. 14 15 Q. Regarding Sergeant Wuttke advising you -- you call it a write up in 16 17 your Complaint at Paragraph 83 that you were being placed on a chronically sick category; 18 do you recall that incident? 19 THE WITNESS: You're talking 20 about Sergeant Wuttke, I'm sorry, I 21 22 In your Complaint on March 23 29th, 2014, this is Paragraph 83, Lieutenant 24 Wuttke informed you that although he had an 25

M. BOVELL 158 1 Immaculate attendance record for two years 2 3 he was issuing you a write up for being absent three times in January 2014. 4 5 Yeah, approximately at that Α. time. 6 Do you recall that incident? 7 Q. Yes, I recall that incident. 8 Α. Did you have any understanding 9 Ο. as to why you were being written up for 10 11 being chronically sick? THE WITNESS: Why I was being 12 written up? 13 MR. SWEENEY: Yes. 14 15 Α. My understanding is that I was being targeted because of groups of us were 16 being targeted because management wanted 17 their way, you know, I felt that I was also 18 being targeted by Sergeant Wuttke and 19 whoever was above him, you know, as a result 2.0 of me leaving the narcotics group in the 21 22 fashion the way that I did. In an earlier paragraph, 23 Paragraph 79 you indicate that "Sergeant 24 Wuttke was 25

159 M. BOVELL 1 2 3 4 5 6 Yeah. 7 Α. 8 Q. Are you aware of the 9 10 What I was advised by when I 11 Α. went to the PBA from what I understand that 12 13 he was and the way he interacts 14 15 with his subordinates and they felt, management felt that, you know, 16 17 Was he arrogant or 18 inappropriate with subordinates whether 19 black or white or --20 You know what, everything is 21 22 developing because I personally have a problem with him. When I saw him, I was 23 polite. In time I got to learn about him 24 and now experiencing him as my supervisor 25

160 M. BOVELL 1 and what was happening, you know, him and 2 Sergeant Fegan are very close friends. 3 worked in the narcotics together. They have 4 a strong relationship, so I never really had 5 a problem. I never objected to anything, 6 7 you know, really so I discovered all this through some of the information about 8 Sergeant Wuttke through my co-workers and members of the PBA. 10 11 So, your experience with Sergeant Wuttke was not negative? 12 No, my experience with Sergeant 13 Wuttke was definitely negative. I said 14 15 prior to my direct experience with him. MR. SWEENEY: That was my 16 17 timeframe in my question. THE WITNESS: Okay. 18 Prior to, I guess him being 19 Q. assigned to you as your sergeant, you didn't 20 have any negative interaction with him? 21 2.2 No, I did not have any negative interaction other than what I've attained 23 about him working under Sergeant Fisher and 24 25 he being in the narcotics unit and some of

| 1 | M. BOVELL 161 |
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| 2 | the things that he did but I personally |
| 3 | didn't have a problem with him. |
| 4 | Q. I think you said you learned |
| 5 | things about Sergeant Wuttke from other |
| 6 | people? |
| 7 | A. From my understanding I got |
| 8 | information from other co-workers, as well. |
| 9 | Q. What other co-workers provided |
| LO | you with information? |
| L1 | THE WITNESS: Information like |
| L2 | what? |
| L3 | MR. SWEENEY: Something that |
| L 4 | changed your opinion, I assume. |
| L5 | A. Changed well, my direct |
| 16 | experience with him changed my opinion. |
| L7 | MR. SWEENEY: Maybe I'm |
| L 8 | misunderstanding you. |
| L 9 | Q. I thought you said prior to him |
| 20 | being your sergeant that you didn't have any |
| 21 | negative experience with him. |
| 22 | A. I didn't really have any |
| 23 | negative experience with him. I saw him do |
| 24 | things. For instance, there's one time when |
| 25 | me myself and Caparro were arresting |
| | |

M. BOVELL 162

someone in patrol. We were in full pursuit. We were trying to apprehend the individual and Sergeant Wuttke along with the unit came around to help. What they did is they did the whole holding the bag trick. They kicked up the suspect, punched him up and left us to handcuff and they went on their way, so that was an experience of, you know, under Sergeant Fisher how they treated people in the community and they left the holding bag trick where they beat someone They helped apprehend the person but they threw him on the ground, you know, aggressively and the person might have a swollen mouth or face and that particular incident, that was Caparro's case, Caparro's arrest and, you know, we handcuffed the person and they just drove away.

- Q. Did you observe Sergeant Wuttke and Antonini kicking this suspect?
- A. Yeah, they kicked up the suspect and then, you know, then they left.
 - Q. What timeframe was this?
 - A. This was around -- this was in

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163 M. BOVELL 1 -- this was early when I just started 2 working patrol; approximately 2009, maybe 3 2009, approximately 2000 -- but it was when 4 Sergeant Wuttke worked under Sergeant Fisher 5 along with -- sorry, Sergeant Fegan. He was 6 a detective at the time, and there's another 7 individual but I forgot the officer's name. 8 Where was this location? 0. 9 Α. It was -- let's see. I can't 10 really remember. It will come back to me so 11 12 right now --Did you make a report of that 13 misconduct to anyone in your chain of 14 15 command? Did I, no, I did not. 16 Α. Q. Why not? 17 Because I wasn't the only one 18 who observed it. Everyone else saw that --19 Detective Caparro saw it. It was his 20 arrest, you know. When I just started this 21 22 job in 2007 Bill Burke, he told me -- he's a black officer and he told me that when he 23 just started there were really no black 24 officers and there's an incident that he got 25

164 M. BOVELL 1 involved in. He arrested someone and a 2 similar situation occurred where other 3 officers, white officers came on the scene, 4 beat up the suspect and the suspect was left 5 with perhaps some bruises or some injuries 6 and he was like holding the bag, it was his 7 arrest but he said that as a black officer 8 you can't speak up against a white officer 9 so what happened was that he ended up 10 getting sued and he was fined civilly for 11 that incident and he had to pay money but he 12 said he couldn't speak up against the white 13 officers, that you would be in a whole lot 14 15 of trouble. Your allegation regarding 16 Sergeant Wuttke 17 18 19 That happened -- that occurred 20 Α. several times, actually. 21 22 Q. That he was 23 Α. 24 Oh, yes. 25 Q.

M. BOVELL Yes, that occurred several Α. times. Give me some for examples. Q. Well, before when I just came Α. on that happened earlier. I remember Commissioner Burke sending us -- while I was in narcotics sending us to -- because when

M. BOVELL Do you know what supervisors I'm not sure. I don't remember Α. right now. I don't remember but that information was given to me by PO Butler, the person who did that report and also by Officer Evans. He told me that Butler had told him, as well.

167 M. BOVELL 1 So, you didn't observe this, 2 this was told to you by other officers? 3 Yes, officers that were 4 Α. 5 involved. So, you don't have firsthand Q. 6 7 knowledge of this, this is what other people 8 told you? This is what other officers Α. 9 advised me. 10 11 Getting back to Paragraph 79 regarding the reputation of condescending 12 and demeaning conduct towards black 13 subordinates. 14 15 Did you experience Sergeant Wuttke being condescending and demeaning to you 16 17 with any other black subordinate? Yes, I observed him shouting --18 I observed him shouting in a condescending 19 manner to another black officer. I don't 20 remember his name. He transferred. I spoke 21 with other officers who observed his 2.2 demeanor and how he speaks differently to 23 other white officers compared to black 24 25 officers, so yes.

168 M. BOVELL 1 For example, what did he say Q. 2 that was condescending or demeaning that you 3 remember? 4 THE WITNESS: Towards whom? 5 MR. SWEENEY: To you or to 6 anyone else, any other black 7 subordinate. 8 He spoke a lot -- he used 9 Α. profanity, spoke aggressively loud in a 10 condescending manner. He's superior. I 11 mean, he's supervisor as if the person 12 doesn't have any sense. That's the 13 arrogance. I've seen it, I've heard it but 14 15 I've witnessed it firsthand myself and that particular officer, I saw him behaving that 16 way too now who's now transferred. He's a 17 black officer. 18 Who is that? Ο. 19 I don't remember his name. 20 Α. Right now I don't remember his name. 21 22 Q. Besides I guess the voice level 23 and profanity --He used things like -- the 24 Α. words like "You stupid" and things to make 25

| 1 | M. BOVELL 169 |
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| 2 | someone feel as if they're less than what |
| 3 | they are so that's his method of dialogue |
| 4 | when speaking to certain black officers. |
| 5 | Q. Do you think he treated white |
| 6 | officers differently? |
| 7 | A. Oh, yes, definitely. According |
| 8 | to other officers that I've spoken to that |
| 9 | observed his demeanor, yes. Other black |
| 10 | officers, they advised me of this, as well. |
| 11 | Q. What other black officers have |
| 12 | you spoken to that can confirm this? |
| 13 | A. Officer Lee. |
| 14 | Q. Avion Lee? |
| 15 | A. Avion Lee, that's correct. |
| 16 | MR. SWEENEY: A-V-I-O-N. |
| 17 | A. I believe that's her first |
| 18 | name. I'm not sure. |
| 19 | Q. Anyone else besides Officer |
| 20 | Lee? |
| 21 | A. I don't remember right now. I |
| 22 | don't remember right now; perhaps other |
| 23 | officers, yes. |
| 24 | Q. Getting back to the chronic |
| 25 | sick write up that occurred in March of |
| | |

170 M. BOVELL 1 2014, did you understand the criteria for 2 being written up on chronic sick? 3 THE WITNESS: Understand what 4 exactly? 5 Like did you have to be out so 6 many times on sick in order to be written 7 Was there a metric, was there --8 You know what, this is what I 9 Α. was told by -- when Officer Wuttke was 10 writing me up. He said "I don't know why I 11 12 gotta write you up. I was told to write you up." I said to him, "Is this a verbal -- a 13 counseling or written up?" He said "Both." 14 Normally part of the procedure is you're 15 counseled. If they see that you're going 16 off the edge, you need to tighten up you're 17 counseled but he told me no, it's counseling 18 and a write up. I was told you have an 19 20 exceptional record as far as sick and that's what he told me. So, he told me that he's 21 basically being forced to write me up. 22 23 Did you suffer any career negative consequences because of that 24 chronic sick write up? 25

| 1 | M. BOVELL 171 | |
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| 2 | A. I don't know. | |
| 3 | Q. Okay. | |
| 4 | A. I'm here today, so I don't | |
| 5 | know. | |
| 6 | Q. What do you mean you're here | |
| 7 | today? | |
| 8 | A. Meaning that as a result of me | |
| 9 | responding and feeling that I was written up | |
| 10 | unfairly by Officer Wuttke and whoever's | |
| 11 | demand it was. I sent an email to my | |
| 12 | superiors about that incident and | |
| 13 | subsequently to that I was retaliated upon | |
| 14 | by management Officer Wuttke where he relied | |
| 15 | on my evaluation, you know, so I'm here | |
| 16 | today. | |
| 17 | Q. I'm showing you Exhibits F and | |
| 18 | G which are bate stamped. | |
| 19 | (Handed) | |
| 20 | Q. Do you recognize Exhibits F and | |
| 21 | G? | |
| 22 | A. F and G, yes, this looks like | |
| 23 | an email, a copy of an email that I sent to | |
| 24 | a supervisor and Wuttke. | |
| 25 | Q. What is Exhibit F? | |
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| 1 | M. BOVELL 172 |
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| 2 | A. F, that's a copy of the email |
| 3 | where it's indicating who I sent it to. |
| 4 | Q. Exhibit F is a copy of an email |
| 5 | which has an attachment to it? |
| 6 | A. Yes. |
| 7 | Q. And the attachment is Exhibit |
| 8 | G? |
| 9 | A. The attachment is an MV-5 of |
| 10 | concerned sick days, discrimination and |
| 11 | retaliation. That's what it indicates. |
| 12 | It's dated March 29th, 2014. |
| 13 | Q. The MV-5 which is a two page |
| 14 | document, is that the MV-5 that you |
| 15 | generated? |
| 16 | A. It looks like it. |
| 17 | Q. Were you required to do the |
| 18 | MV-5 or did you take it on your own to |
| 19 | generate the MV-5? |
| 20 | A. I discussed it with my PBA |
| 21 | representatives on what was going on. I |
| 22 | advised them that I was going to do it and |
| 23 | consulted with certain PBA members and I |
| 24 | generated and I submitted it. |
| 25 | Q. Does that Exhibit G, the MV-5, |

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M. BOVELL 173

does that set forth your complaint regarding your being written up for being chronically sick?

- A. It includes that and other things, other things that occurred during that time.
 - Q. What other things, for example?
- During the -- particularly that Α. same month, I believe, I asked my superior at the time submitted a slip for time off, comp time/sick time off because I was in school and I needed to do an exam and so forth but I was denied. I asked -- I went to the supervisor which is Captain Hastings who is a white officer, my superior and I asked him, you know, is there any way, you know, you can approve this because I'm going to school, you know, I'm trying to do some things as far as my education is concerned and I knew there's not much resource for the police officers in the Mount Vernon Police Department pertaining to school and he said no, you know, there's nothing he could do and I had to come into work, so I came into

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M. BOVELL 174

A week or two later I called out sick because I was sick. I get a phone call from now Lieutenant Curzio, C-U-R-Z-I-O. He leaves me a voicemail to call him back and I did. He says to me that Captain Hastings is is upset that you called out and I said why. Apparently you asked for some time off and you didn't get it and now you're out sick. I don't understand. He said Captain Hastings is upset so I didn't understand the nature of that because we're professionals and it's not personal so I don't know why it was taken personal for Captain Hastings being upset. I was sick at home. I was home sick. I was drinking tea so that along with the unfair write up by Sergeant Wuttke was retaliatory in nature.

- Q. Retaliatory because of your complaint regarding the comp time?
- A. No. Well, retaliatory in the sense that who am I and who are you asking for time off and who are you to call out sick, you know, I -- you know, it's just mind boggling to me. He called me and said

175 M. BOVELL 1 Captain Hastings is upset. Upset for what? 2 3 They take sick days. 4 5 6 7 So, subsequently after I sent this 8 email, I quess peoples' feet started 9 shuffling and I guess as I stated there am I 10 11 the only one being treated this way, you know, so they sent out an order for other 12 people being disciplined, as well as a 13 result of my email. 14 15 Ο. I'm not catching that. They sent an email? 16 17 As a result of me sending this email saying I was being unfairly treated 18 they quickly shuffled their feet to make 19 things right, to try to make things right 20 where I pointed out where other supervisors 21 22 called out many times and have never received any write up but because of this 23

email they were counseled as a result just

to cover their tracks.

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176 M. BOVELL 1 Other officers were counseled 2 for chronic sick after you generated --3 Supervisors, I'll say Α. 4 supervisors because supervisors are 5 untouchable. If you're a supervisor you get 6 away with a lot of things and that's the way 7 it is in the Mount Vernon Police Department 8 9 so there far as supervisors. Supervisors get into 10 trouble. They have high privilege because 11 they're on the side with the power. 12 one PBA and the PBA represents both 13 supervisors and subordinates. 14 So, in this case after you Q. 15 generated your MV-5, Exhibit G, the 16 supervisors were counseled for chronic sick? 17 18 Α. came out with an order to counsel and I 19 remember going into the office when he was 20 counseled -- written up or counseled and he 21 was upset with me as a result of me sending 22 this email because as a result of me sending 23

this email it shed light on things that

where they're unfair about where a

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177 M. BOVELL 1 supervisor didn't get preferential treatment 2 compared to other officers. 3 And your email which is Exhibit Ο. 4 F was sent to Commissioner Raynor and other 5 people; correct? 6 Other people including Captain 7 Goldman. Captain Goldman was promoted Chief 8 Goldman who recently 9 10 There came a time where you 11 Ο. received an evaluation from Sergeant Wuttke 12 or was generated by Sergeant Wuttke. 13 That would have been in May of 2014? 14 15 Α. Approximately at that time in Subsequent -- after this written up 16 and that email regarding sick time, yes, 17 Captain Wutte did an evaluation after 18 shortly being assigned as my supervisor. 19 I believe in your Complaint at 20 allegations Number 87 through 96 you allege 21 22 that Sergeant Wuttke created a false evaluation in that he lied; is that correct? 23 Oh, hell yes; yes, definitely. 24 Α. What's the basis -- first of 25 Q.

M. BOVELL

178

all, why don't you tell me what happened regarding your evaluation.

Α. Well, not to generalize but a lot of other officers know that I'm a very active police officer so the indication being, whatever -- the substance that was indicated on my evaluation by Sergeant Wuttke was obviously incorrect. He indicated that I had one arrest and that I was a negative influence of my FT because that year when I went back to patrol because I was already an FDO. They assigned me to the FDO program and I was FDO in a few of the recruits, new police officers and under my FDO, under my guidance, they did very well. They received during the same time good evaluations from other supervisors but on that particular evaluation as I remember everything about it was falsely inaccurate. Sergeant Wuttke knows that I was a very active police officer but he was upset, obviously. He was upset about the email that I sent so it was an opportunity for him to exercise his authority and his power over

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M. BOVELL

179

me, so that evaluation was administered not by Sergeant Wuttke. It was done by Sergeant Wuttke but in the particular day it was given to me by Sergeant Scott, a black sergeant. He said to me "Listen, I did not do the evaluation, Sergeant Wuttke but he's not here." I asked him, "How is he not here to administer this whole evaluation to give me an opportunity to discuss it with him if I do not concur so this way we can have an understanding?" He said he don't know. we went over the evaluation. I said, "I do not concur with it because it's totally incorrect. I'm an active police officer. Ι really don't understand why these numbers are not accurate and his summary of me in my evaluation is inaccurate and he knows I'm an active police officer," you know. He said "Listen, you have to take it up with Sergeant Wuttke." So, you know, at that time Lieutenant Gallagher was there, a white supervisor. I was a little bit reluctant to sign the evaluation but Lieutenant Gallagher said I better sign the evaluation or I'm

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M. BOVELL 180

going to get written up. I said, "What if I don't agree with it, why do I have to sign something if I don't agree with it?" "You have to sign it to say that you received it." So, I signed -- after him threatening to write me up, I signed one part of the evaluation and I asked for a copy. At first, they didn't want to give me a copy of my evaluation which I don't understand but I asked again and he gave me a copy. I then appealed it. I appealed it, I submitted the appeal to Lieutenant Gallagher. He went into the back officer where Captain Hastings and Deputy Chief Dumser, I believe. He was there and he took my appeal for my evaluation which Sergeant Wuttke wasn't present for. So, I did that. I followed the rules and regulations, department rules and regulations and nothing was done.

- Q. Well, what do you mean nothing was done?
- A. When I say nothing was done, I -- subsequent to that, I went across the street to the human resource department, Ms.

181 M. BOVELL 1 Judy Williams. I spoke to her about what 2 was happening in the police department. 3 Judy -- she's commissioner of human 4 resources. I told her how I felt that I'm 5 being attacked racially and I'm being 6 discriminated, I'm being bullied by 7 supervising management, administration in 8 the police department. We sat down and we 9 had a detailed discussion of what was 10 happening, what I saw. I told her my 11 experiences and she asked me why I didn't 12 went to other resources like Internal 13 Affairs and she said to me that I've heard 14 stories about Internal Affairs from other 15 officers and I can see why you didn't go 16 there and at the time Internal Affairs was 17 being lead by Lieutenant Olifiers who is a 18 Caucasian police officer. 19 Did there come a point in time 20 Q. where the evaluation was amended? 21 THE WITNESS: Amended? 22 MR. SWEENEY: Corrected. 23 This was after I filed my Α. 24 Complaint with the EEOC. I filed my 25

M. BOVELL

182

Complaint with the EEOC. This happened in The incident that happened in May that's when I reported to approximately at that time I went to human resources, Ms. Judy Williams. The commissioner is the one who told me that I need to draft something that she can work with and she's going to schedule an appointment with the mayor. She said that she knows the Internal Affairs is corrupted and she knows this is why I came to her and she understands how the administration is and she's going to set up an appointment with the mayor so I could speak with him and she will call me back. The following day I submitted -- not the following day but during that week I submitted the documentation that she needed to her office, I called her and she said she received the documents and she will get back to me. She never did. In light of me doing that, I expected an investigation which is the process. They have meetings, they pull -- nothing happened, nothing happened even with my appeal, nothing immediately

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183 M. BOVELL 1 happened. Nothing happened at all. 2 discussions with Commissioner Raynor 3 pertaining to what was happening. Nothing 4 was done. I received word by someone close 5 to Commissioner Raynor, a very close friend 6 that he told -- he advised him to fix it and 7 it was never done, you know, the chain of 8 command. That's, you know -- there are 9 times when I will be in Commissioner 10 Raynor's office and Deputy Chief Burke will 11 12 walk in and they'll use profanity towards me and curse at you in disagreement; 13 unprofessional. So, I really don't know 14 what's going on. 15 Did there come a point in time 16 Q. where your evaluation was amended? 17 THE WITNESS: Amended? 18 MR. SWEENEY: Like fixed. 19 20 THE WITNESS: Changed? MR. SWEENEY: Yes. 21 I think so, later on after I 22 23 filed my objections with the EEOC and we were in mediation. I guess it was fixed 24 then but not during the course of time. It 25

184 M. BOVELL 1 took months. It took months. 2 Was it corrected or fixed to 3 Ο. your satisfaction? 4 No, it wasn't fixed to my 5 satisfaction. 6 What was wrong with the amended Q. 7 evaluation? 8 I can't remember. Sergeant 9 Wuttke did call and apologize that he was 10 wrong in what he did, but that it really 11 12 wasn't fixed to my satisfaction at all, complete satisfaction. It was better than 13 initially and more truthful but it wasn't 14 complete to my satisfaction. 15 I'm going to hand you what's 16 been marked as Exhibit G. Show it to your 17 attorney and that's bate stamped, as well --18 J, I'm sorry. 19 20 (Handed) Yeah, this appears to be the 21 initial evaluation which is evaluation 22 period from April 1st, 2013 to March 31st, 23 2014, so Sergeant Wuttke was my supervisor 24 from February of 2014 and he did an 25

185 M. BOVELL 1 evaluation of me from April 1st, 2013 to 2 March 31st, 2014 and this evaluation as it 3 says in here concluded that I have one 4 5 arrest, zero summons during that whole time as an active police officer and that my 6 attitude and work interest needs 7 improvement, my professional relationship is 8 satisfactory, initiative is satisfactory, 9 quality and quantity of work needs 10 improvement and appearance satisfactory, 11 judgement satisfactory, everything else 12 satisfactory and do you wish to appeal this 13 evaluation? I circled yes and I said I 14 disagree with this evaluation in its 15 16 entirety. Then there came a point in time 17 where you made a complaint to the human 18 resources person at the city over that 19 evaluation; is that correct? 20 Yes, immediately following this 21 evaluation and the write up pertaining to my 22 sick time. 23 I'm handing you Exhibits H and 24 Q. 25 I which I believe are also bate stamped.

| 1 | M. BOVELL 186 |
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| 2 | (Handed) |
| 3 | A. A letter some of what I |
| 4 | submitted to Ms. Williams. |
| 5 | Q. You're looking at Exhibit is |
| 6 | that G? What exhibit are you looking at? |
| 7 | A. H and I. |
| 8 | Q. So, were there attachments to |
| 9 | Exhibit H? |
| 10 | A. Yes, I attached the previous |
| 11 | MV-5, I believe. |
| 12 | Q. On a chronic sick leave, that |
| 13 | one? |
| 14 | A. I believe so. I don't |
| 15 | remember. I'd have to check again but |
| 16 | there's more information that I attached |
| 17 | that I submitted to Ms. Judy Williams based |
| 18 | on our conversation. |
| 19 | Q. Was Exhibit H and I submitted |
| 20 | at the same time, as well as other |
| 21 | documentation? |
| 22 | A. Yes. |
| 23 | Q. Exhibit I think it's H over |
| 24 | there references that you had a discussion |
| 25 | with human resources person; is that |
| | |

187 M. BOVELL 1 correct, at the first sentence, I think? 2 Yes, that's what it is. 3 The basis for your complaint is Q. 4 memorialized in Exhibit H, that's what you 5 6 were complaining about? THE WITNESS: In Exhibit H or 7 Ι? 8 Well, Exhibit I looks like a Q. 9 form that says essentially see attached; 10 right? 11 Α. Okay. 12 And attached, I assume is 13 Q. Exhibit H which is your three page narrative 14 complaint? 15 Yes, some of the documentation 16 that I attached. It looks that way. 17 Except for any attachments 18 which might have been the performance 19 evaluation and maybe the chronic sick, MV-5 20 that you referenced, were there any other 21 attachments to that document? 22 Not that I remember right now. 23 Did you have any other 2.4 complaints regarding how the police 25

188 M. BOVELL 1 department's treating you at that time other 2 than what's set forth in --3 THE WITNESS: Written 4 5 complaints? MR. SWEENEY: Yes. 6 I know that Judy and I, we 7 spoke about a lot of things and she said 8 she's going to set up a meeting with the 9 mayor. That never happened and we spoke 10 about things that she's already aware of in 11 12 the police department, certain departments in Internal Affairs but 13 this right here seems to be one of the 14 documentation that I submitted to her. I 15 16 don't remember the others right now that I 17 When you 18 the police department, what are you 19 20 referring to? Well, she said that to me that 21 she's aware -- she asked why I didn't go to 22 23 Internal Affairs, why I didn't go to Internal Affairs and I began to speak about 24 of Antonini, Sergeant Fegan 25

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M. BOVELL 189

and things that they were doing and what I
was experiencing now from supervisor
Sergeant Wuttke and so forth, so she told me
to put something on paper that she could
work with it and begin an investigation and
she's going to set up a meeting with me.
She's going to set up a meeting with me and
the mayor which never happened. That never
happened, as well. So, nothing was done
with my appeal, no follow-up from the mayor,
no protocol where someone makes a complaint
in the department or

Q. As I understand it from your previous response, your performance evaluation was appealed and was amended and you're saying was not to your satisfaction?

harassment, nothing was done.

it was amended later -- this was
approximately when I was in mediation with
the EEOC. Nothing was done. They had
months to rectify the issue, management,
Commissioner Raynor was aware of it, it's
safe to say the mayor, Judy Williams was

190 M. BOVELL 1 aware of what was going on; months. 2 was amended when I -- in 2014, September of 3 2014 I got injured. These incidents 4 occurred before May of 2014 and subsequent 5 to that is when this issue was amended, 6 amended and I got -- I received a phone call 7 while I was out injured from Sergeant Wuttke 8 apologizing during the mediation, during the 9 mediation process. So, they were actually 10 forced to fix -- attempted to fix the 11 situation and not by a third party and not 12 by a body, Mount Vernon body itself as Mount 13 Vernon Police Department. 14 MR. SWEENEY: Can I have that 15 marked, please. 16 (Whereupon, Defendant's Exhibit 17 CC, Personal Performance Evaluation, 18 was marked for Identification.) 19 I'm handing you now Exhibit CC. 20 Ο. (Handed) 21 I ask that you take a look at 22 that two page document which I believe is 23 bate stamped. 24 Okay. 25 Α.

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M. BOVELL 191

Q. Is that -- is Exhibit CC the amended evaluation that was provided to you?

- A. It appears that way.
- Q. You indicated that that amended evaluation was still not satisfactory?
- It's not because it's indicated that Sergeant Wuttke's evaluation is due to an error. It was an intentional lie. It was retaliation upon me as being a police officer that stood up, as a black police officer. That's all lies. When he called me, he indicated that he received incorrect information from someone in the SSD where that same individual told me that when I went to get a copy of my records, they told me that's not the information you asked for and said that that's not what you wanted -that's not the information you wanted from her, so that's totally inaccurate. This is another attempt for him to cover up his tracks. So, you know, everything is a lie here. All my time in narcotics, you know, my previous evaluation to this was definitely above and beyond which was done

M. BOVELL 192

by Sergeant McEachin and again this time period covers this evaluation, covered a time where Sergeant Wuttke was not my supervisor. So, in the event, this is an unfair evaluation because how can he give me an evaluation when he wasn't even my supervisor, you know, it doesn't make any sense. Yes, this is below even though he fixed the quality of work, this is below my productivity and I do not even agree with this evaluation. This is false.

- Q. Did you appeal that amended evaluation?
- A. I was out injured. I was under a lot of pressure. I was going through a lot mentally. I was not at work so I didn't have the opportunity which is why I was going through the EEOC which is why I filed my application for the EEOC. I had to go through a third-party entity, third-party entity to intervene in what was happening because I realized there's no justice when you seek help or justice within a police department. The resources are not ideal.

193 M. BOVELL 1 The resources are not impartial. The 2 resources are not -- there's no justice so I 3 have to go somewhere in order to get 4 justice. 5 The answer is you didn't appeal 6 Q. that amended complaint? 7 Α. I didn't have the opportunity 8 to. I was out injured. 9 When Sergeant Wuttke called to 10 apologize for the errors that were done with 11 12 your evaluation, did you tape that phone call? 13 Yes, that was recorded. 14 Did Sergeant Wuttke know he was 15 being recorded? 16 I don't know. Α. 17 How would he know? Q. 18 I don't know. I don't know --19 Α. did I tell him he was being recorded, no, I 20 did not. 2.1 22 Q. Do you record other phone 23 calls? THE WITNESS: Of whom? 24 MR. SWEENEY: I don't know. 25

194 M. BOVELL 1 Do you record other phone 2 0. calls? 3 Yes, I recorded other phone Α. 4 calls, yes. 5 Why did you record the phone 6 Q. call? 7 THE WITNESS: What phone calls? 8 MR. SWEENEY: Well, start with 9 Sergeant Wuttke's. 10 Well, you know, when we call to 11 the police department, certain phone calls 12 13 are recorded. There's a lot of phone calls where I called the police department and I 14 didn't know that I was being recorded. The 15 sergeant never told me that I was being 16 recorded, so I don't be safe to assume that 17 I'm being recorded. There was a phone that 18 during my injury I was speaking to Sergeant 19 Sexton and during the end of our 20 conversation he tole me that "Oh, this is 21 being recorded." I didn't know phone calls 22 to the desk were being recorded, so that's 23 what I was told. 24 25 But Sergeant Wuttke, as I Q.

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M. BOVELL 195

understand it, called you at your house or no?

No, he did not call me at all. Α. I was going to physical therapy and I made a call to the desk not knowing that these calls are recorded but based on -- I feel that I have based on experienced, the unfairness and cover ups that I've observed and witnessed, you cannot rely on the Mount Vernon Police Department to do the right thing, so I have to make sure I cross my T's and dot my I's to protect my best interest. So, I called to tell -- I called in the morning to tell Sergeant Wuttke that I was going to the doctor and he answered the phone and I checked out as a routine and when I called back I spoke with Officer Leone. I called back to say I was back in the house and Officer Leone said "Hold on, Sergeant Wuttke wants to speak with you." Sergeant Wuttke then came on the phone which I assume was also being recorded by the Mount Vernon Police Department. I don't know if they

M. BOVELL

196

still have those records or maybe been destroyed but he came on the phone and apologized for the evaluation. I said to him, "Can we do this another time because I'm out injured and face to face. I would like the opportunity, you know, just like in the EEOC, the opportunity to discuss this issue with you. As I documented it in my memo book subsequent to the incident, you know, in May. I placed in a memo book entry that there's been a couple of days that Sergeant Wuttke gave me my unfair evaluation. I've seen him a couple times and I appealed it and nothing has still been done. He has not addressed me. I've seen him when he supervised me in certain tours. Even though we have steady tours and supervisors have a rotating tour, he has not addressed me. He deliberately avoided me. He didn't want to make eye contact, he didn't want to say anything to me because obviously he felt what he did was wrong and he knew what he did was wrong. He was afraid of any type of confrontation. As a

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197 M. BOVELL 1 supervisor, again, he failed as a supervisor 2 to do the right thing. The right thing was 3 to address your subordinate as to why you 4 wrote those things. Even if he had done 5 that, that would give him the opportunity to 6 resolve anything between us and he didn't do 7 that as a supervisor should. 8 Q. You said in your prior 9 testimony that Sergeant Wuttke lied on your 10 first evaluation and it was a false 11 evaluation; do you recall that? 12 I don't remember, but he did 13 lie on my first evaluation. 14 What's the basis for your 15 Q. 16 belief that he lied, like an intentional untruth? 17 THE WITNESS: On the valuation 18 of -- the first evaluation --19 MR. SWEENEY: Yes. 20 THE WITNESS: -- where he wrote 21 that my performance is not 22 satisfactory and quality of work is 23 24 poor? MR. SWEENEY: Yes. 25

M. BOVELL 198

A. It's accumulative of things
like we discussed earlier, there are events
that occurred where Sergeant Wuttke was
upset the way I responded to some of his
actions. The email that was sent
criticizing how -- where I mentioned that
spoke about him briefly about how he -- some
of the things that he got involved with,
negative things and

He felt that that's a direct attack on me and this was his opportunity to retaliate against me and to lie as a result of that. It was his power which he's known for doing. He's known for speaking to other black officers by using his authority, one of the reasons why he was demoted in the past and he took this opportunity being that he felt comfortable or protected by the supervisors, white supervisors that perhaps have his back and he proceeded to do so. So, yes, it was a lie because Sergeant Wuttke even complimented me in the past that I'm very active and this is before him and I had any

199 M. BOVELL 1 type of negative conflict. He was aware of 2 my productivity, so for him to put that I 3 have one arrest shows his incompetence, you 4 know, his lack of inability to supervise 5 because if you're a supervisor or if you're 6 a good detective that you work in that 7 capacity before you're a supervisor. 8 knows that he has to utilize all his 9 resources and do a research before he draws 10 a conclusion so that he could be impartial 11 and have a positive and feared conclusion. 12 This evaluation was driven on emotions and 13 driven on hate, driven on retaliation, 14 driven on abuse of power and it's very 15 obvious. 16 I'm showing you Exhibit P which 17 I think appears to be and it's bate stamped 18 that was provided by your attorney. It 19 appears to be a photocopy or images of your 20 memo book; is that right? 21 (Handed) 22 It appears that way. 23 Α.

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Those are the memo book pages

where you noted Sergeant Wuttke's non

200 M. BOVELL 1 contact with you regarding your evaluation? 2 Some of which from what I 3 remember, one included here is also when I 4 -- when I showed up for work I was feeling 5 sick and Sergeant Wuttke was on the desk. 6 told him that I wasn't feeling well and he 7 told me that there was no RMP's. 8 RMP is? 9 Q. I'm sorry, a police vehicle 10 because where we do Con Ed details we have 11 to quide traffic and I told him I wasn't 12 feeling well and someone else could cover 13 the shift and he said no problem. I also 14 consulted with Greg Addison. Greg Addison 15 16 was upset but I told him I wasn't feeling well and, you know, I went home. The next 17 day I was advised I was taken off the Con Ed 18 list and bold letters was next to my name. 19 Why is Greg Addison who's I 20 Q. think the former police PBA union president, 2.1 why was he upset? 22 I don't know why. He looked at 23 me and said "You got to play the game." I 24 said, "I'm sick." "Well, you got to play 25

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M. BOVELL 201

the game." He was more upset because it's going to draw an issue in the police department. I guess there's no RMP's because -- we had a conversation that the reason there's no RMP's is because the city is not paying the bills and, you know, officer safety is not priority. A lot of times we go out into the field and work and the RMP's are broken half the time and not functional, not functioning properly and the city is not paying the mechanics to fix the police vehicles so he was afraid that it would draw attention to a bigger issue, but I said I'm not feeling sick and my intention was to put my best foot forward but knowing that there were no police vehicles on this detail it's just going to make a disaster with my situation so it was, you know, as again, my safety is priority, you know, than anything else.

- Q. That Con Ed incident is what you reference here in your Complaint at Paragraphs 105 through 110; is that correct?
 - A. That's right.

202 M. BOVELL 1 That occurred on July or on or 2 0. about July 28th, 2014? 3 July, I believe so; Α. 4 5 approximately. Were you offered a marked 6 police van to take out to the Con Ed detail? 7 Not that I remember. 8 Is there anything that would 9 refresh your memory as to whether or not you 10 were offered a marked police van? 11 Not that I remember. 12 remember being told that there were no 13 police vehicles and I made the decision to 14 go home because I wasn't feeling well. 15 But if there was a marked 16 Q. police van that was available, you would 17 have used it? 18 If there was a vehicle that was 19 available to me, yes, I would have utilized 20 21 it. I'm going to show you what's 22 Q. marked as Exhibit M which I think is images 23 of a text conversation between yourself and 24 25 another police officer.

203 M. BOVELL 1 (Handed) 2 3 This seems like a conversation -- a copy of text messages between me --4 messages between myself and Officer 5 Villaneuva, Jeremy Villanueva. 6 THE WITNESS: I don't even know 7 how to spell it. 8 MS. BELLANTONI: 9 V-I-L-L-A-N-U-E-V-A. 10 THE WITNESS: Okay. 11 Those text messages, does that 12 pertain to the Con Ed incident you just 13 described? 14 Yes, it looks that way. 15 What is Officer Villanueva's 16 Q. relationship to the Con Ed detail that we're 17 talking about? 18 He works in the admin office, 19 20 personnel office, so I guess one part of his responsibility is to assign people to 21 overtime details, you know, if you submit 22 for time off he will submit that for you. 2.3 You send it back to him and he will submit 24 it to the supervisors and one of his role is 25

204 M. BOVELL 1 if there's overtime he will call you to let 2 you know and ask you if you're available to 3 do the overtime. 4 The Con Ed detail we're talking 5 Ο. about is an overtime assignment? 6 7 Yes, it's an overtime. Are you paid by the city for 8 that or by or through Con Ed for that? 9 I don't know. My checks come 10 from the City of Mount Vernon. I don't know 11 12 what type of --Q. Reimbursement? 13 Yeah, I don't know but all my 14 checks are from Mount Vernon, not through a 15 16 third-party vendor. The remark where it says do not 17 hire for this Con Ed position, do you know 18 what put those --19 20 Okay, I don't know. Α. Subsequently it was done the day after --21 about the day after -- about the day after. 22 I called out sick that day. I don't know 23 who exactly did it but it was done. I 24 expressed to my supervisor at the time that 25

M. BOVELL 205

I was genuinely sick. There's no reason to retaliate and take me off Con Ed because I was sick unless someone spoke bad about me and wanted their way and as a result, a negative result which is what occurred or someone felt that I was disingenuous and did not believe what I was saying so he retaliated and took me off the list, you know, so I do not know. Only I can assume but my -- I was genuinely sick so I don't see no reason why I would be taken off the overtime list.

- Q. What were you sick with, what was your ailment?
- A. I was -- I don't remember at the time but I was sick. I remember going home and I also remember actually driving past Sergeant Wuttke because he -- Sergeant Wuttke apparently lives in my neighborhood so I remember driving past Sergeant Wuttke that day when I went back home.
- Q. Do you think Sergeant Wuttke is the one that put the entry in the records?
 - A. You know what, I can't tell --

206 M. BOVELL 1 It does point in that direction, 2 someone who perhaps did not feel I was 3 genuinely sick and reported and spoke 4 negatively about me and influenced that 5 decision to take me off the Con Ed list. 6 You know, people get sick. If you're sick, 7 it doesn't mean that you should be taken off 8 the list. Your health is priority. If 9 you're sick, you shouldn't even come to work 10 because you risk infecting or giving someone 11 else your sickness and that's going to 12 affect the work force but sometimes you have 13 to show up to work and for them to see that 14 you're sick, you know, put your best foot 15 forward. Unfortunately in the police 16 department you're guilty until proven 17 innocent, the Mount Vernon Police 18 19 Department. I'm showing you Exhibit N which 20 I believe is bate stamped. I could be 21 22 wrong. (Handed) 23 Α. 24 Okay. 25 Q. Do you recognize Exhibit N?

207 M. BOVELL 1 Yes, I believe so. Α. 2 What is Exhibit N? 3 Ο. It says "Charge Of Α. 4 Discrimination." This form is effective --5 privacy act of 1974; EEOC Charge Number 6 520201402659. It has my name on it, 7 Murashea Bovell. It has my phone number, my 8 place of residence, the Mount Vernon Police 9 Department address. It indicates Murashea 10 Bovell shall not be employed by the Mount 11 Vernon Police Department and the date and 12 time and it goes on to indicate that on 13 March 29th, 2014 my supervisor gave me an 14 inferior write up which I reported to 15 management and Sergeant Wuttke then 16 evaluated me and issued an unfair evaluation 17 and it goes on to say --18 So, that exhibit represents 19 Ο. your filing of the charge with the Equal 20 Employment Opportunity commissioner? 21 Α. Yes. 22 There came a time where you 23 supplemented your charge with a narrative? 24 25 I'm handing you Exhibit O which I believe is

| 1 | M. BOVELL 208 |
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| 2 | bate stamped. |
| 3 | (Handed) |
| 4 | A. I submitted quite a few |
| 5 | documents to EEOC in support of the |
| 6 | circumstances. |
| 7 | Q. Exhibit O represents a |
| 8 | narrative statement by you as to how you |
| 9 | believe you were discriminated against? |
| 10 | A. Yes, it does. It does appear |
| 11 | to have my signature on Page 3, 3 of 3. |
| 12 | Q. Does that document, Exhibit O, |
| 13 | represent your complaints against the Mount |
| 1.4 | Vernon Police Department of racial |
| 15 | discrimination as of that time? |
| 16 | THE WITNESS: Racial |
| 17 | discrimination? |
| 18 | Q. I assume that was the basis for |
| 19 | your charge; right? |
| 20 | A. Retaliation and discrimination, |
| 21 | yes, it looks like the complaints that I |
| 22 | submitted to the EEOC. |
| 23 | Q. I'm going to hand you Exhibit S |
| 2 4 | which appears to be a photocopy of a screen |
| 25 | shot of a computer perhaps. |
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| 1 | M. BOVELL 209 |
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| 2 | (Handed) |
| 3 | Q. Can you describe what Exhibit S |
| 4 | is? |
| 5 | A. S is these are pictures off |
| 6 | the police department off my arrest |
| 7 | record, some of the arrests that I had |
| 8 | arrested other suspects, that is. It has my |
| 9 | officer ID 0364, it has the name of the |
| 10 | suspects I arrested, case number and the |
| 11 | year and date. |
| 12 | Q. That documentation, Exhibit S, |
| 13 | goes along with your complaint regarding the |
| 14 | performance evaluation; is that fair to say? |
| 15 | A. I believe so, yes, it looks |
| 16 | that way. |
| 17 | Q. That's your back up |
| 18 | documentation saying your arrest records are |
| 19 | more accurately reflected as on those |
| 20 | computer screens? |
| 21 | A. These are some of the |
| 22 | documents. |
| 23 | Q. I'm going to show you what's |
| 24 | marked as Exhibit Y which appears to be a |
| 25 | one page handwritten list. |
| | t ender the second of the seco |

| 1 | M. BOVELL 210 |
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| 2 | (Handed) |
| 3 | A. Okay. |
| 4 | Q. What is the significance of |
| 5 | that? First of all, do you recognize that? |
| 6 | A. Yeah, it looks like something |
| 7 | that I submitted; some of the arrests made |
| 8 | by myself during field from January 15th, |
| 9 | 2014 through March 8th, 2014. |
| 10 | Q. What does that list represent |
| 11 | or what does it pertain to? |
| 12 | A. This represents some of the |
| 13 | suspects that I arrested during my course |
| 14 | of, I believe, FDO training. |
| 15 | Q. Does that have anything to do |
| 16 | with any part of your Complaint, meaning |
| 17 | does that |
| 18 | A. Well, it does. It does |
| 19 | indicate the timeframe which is my |
| 20 | evaluation period. |
| 21 | Q. So, that pertains to the |
| 22 | performance evaluation that you appealed |
| 23 | from? |
| 24 | A. Yes, it has significance to my |
| 25 | performance evaluation. |
| | |

211 M. BOVELL 1 2 I'm going to show you, I 3 believe, some news articles perhaps. I think it's Defendant's Exhibit Z and 4 Defendant's Exhibit AA which are bate 5 stamped. 6 7 (Handed) 8 Α. Okay. 9 What is the significance of those articles? 10 These are some of the arrests 11 Α. 12 that I've made during my first time in the narcotics unit, exhibits these arrests to 13 14 the quality of life in Mount Vernon as far 15 as stopping crime in the City of Mount 16 Vernon. 17 Does that pertain to any 18 particular charge or allegation in the 19 Complaint? 20 Yeah, it signifies my Α. 21 productivity during the course of my tenure 22 and my evaluation and also obtaining my gold 2.3 shield, that there was never a problem with 24 my productivity, why I should have obtained 25 my gold shield in that 18 month period of

212 M. BOVELL 1 time. 2 I'm going to hand you Exhibit W 3 which is a one-page document which I believe 4 5 is bate stamped. (Handed) 6 7 Α. Okay. Do you recognize that exhibit? 0. 8 Yes, it looks like an email. Α. 9 What is the significance of 10 Q. that email? 11 That also is the case that I 12 had during my time in narcotics that we 13 worked with the DEA task force to bring in 14 one of the PCP dealers in Mount Vernon that 15 I was very instrumental in and I worked with 16 some of the people, my co-workers in the 17 narcotics unit. 18 Is Detective Antonini one of Ο. 19 the people that is commended on that email? 20 He was part of the unit at the 21 time. I don't see him being commended. I 22 see him being copied on that email. 23 Q. Were you commended on the 24 25 email?

213 M. BOVELL 1 Yes, it says great job with 2 Α. your work with MVP narcotics units 3 especially PO Bovell on this case. Keep it 4 rocking guys. I presented the case. We 5 worked on it together and being that the DEA 6 had more authority, more pull, more 7 influence and they executed the case with my 8 9 help. I'm going to hand you Exhibit X 10 Ο. which I think is a three-page document which 11 12 appears to be bate stamped, as well. (Handed) 13 Α. Okay. 14 What is the significance of 15 16 that document? This shows pertaining to the 17 document you just showed me with the arrest 18 of PCP, one of the biggest drug dealers in 19 20 the city. We worked with the DEA task force. It basically indicates the arrestee, 2.1 what was the drugs that was recovered and 22 23 the participants and so forth. Exhibit X is related to Exhibit 24 Q. W which is the email? 25

214 M. BOVELL 1 Yes, it appears that way. Α. 2 Did you incur any adverse job Q. 3 actions or adverse employment opportunities 4 because of the performance evaluation or the 5 amended performance evaluation? 6 THE WITNESS: I don't 7 understand. 8 Did you lose out on any 9 opportunities, a promotion, a reassignment, 10 were you disciplined or otherwise treated 11 adversely? 12 THE WITNESS: As a result of? 13 MR. SWEENEY: The performance 14 evaluation. 15 THE WITNESS: As a result of 16 Sergeant Wuttke -- what does that 17 mean? 18 MR. SWEENEY: Well, Sergeant 19 Wuttke is the one that generated the 20 performance evaluation and the 21 amended performance evaluation. 22 THE WITNESS: Okay. 23 My question to you is: Did you 24 Q. sustain any adverse job action, a loss of an 25

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opportunity?

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Oh, yes, definitely yes. Α. result of his actions, there's more continuous abuse against me, retaliation by the administration. As Lieutenant Gallagher said to me, he pulled me in his office and subsequent to the meeting me appealing the evaluation that -- and sending that email, he said when I do things like this I become a target, so I became a target for the administration. I was no longer with the blue wall. I was going against the grain. So, with that, any opportunity given they're going to retaliate against me. So, yes, as a result of Sergeant Wuttke's actions, I did receive an adverse action as a result which is one of which is to be taken off the Con Ed list, you know, I was taken off the Con Ed list for no apparent reason, you know, as a black officer -- other black officers from what I reported are taken off the Con Ed list, you know, because administration or service supervisor just don't like them. So, yes, I definitely received adverse

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| 1 | M. BOVELL 216 |
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| 2 | action and as a result I'm in the |
| 3 | predicament that I'm in. |
| 4 | Q. Do you know if any white |
| 5 | officers got taken off the Con Ed list? |
| 6 | A. I have no knowledge of that, |
| 7 | no, but I know that black officers were. |
| 8 | Q. But you don't know of any white |
| 9 | officers that were? |
| 10 | A. No, not at that time. |
| 11 | Q. Your complaint at Paragraph 104 |
| 12 | says in May of 2014 Lieutenant Gallagher had |
| 13 | this conversation with you about you |
| 14 | becoming a target? |
| 15 | A. Around that time we had a |
| 16 | meeting, you know, I was in the office and |
| 17 | he called me in. |
| 18 | Q. Was Lieutenant Gallagher your |
| 19 | superior at that time? |
| 20 | A. He's a lieutenant at the desk |
| 21 | so he's superior in patrol, he's superior |
| 22 | officer at that time. |
| 23 | Q. So, he was in the chain of |
| 24 | command at the time? |
| 25 | A. Yes, at that time, on that |
| | |

217 M. BOVELL 1 particular day. 2 And that conversation happened Q. 3 in his office? 4 Well, in the patrol -- not the 5 patrol office, at the desk, I guess his 6 office, of course, at the time right -- it's 7 right next to the dispatch office. 8 I'm going to show you Exhibits Q. 9 D and E which relate back to your time in 10 the detective bureau under Sergeant Fegan. 11 (Handed) 12 13 Α. Okay. Do you recognize Exhibits D and 14 Q. E? 15 Exhibit D looks like you're Α. 16 directed to submit MV-5 addressing the 17 following issues; Exhibit E is MV-5 18 responding to his request. 19 What were the circumstances 20 Q. surrounding the order to produce an MV-5 and 21 your MV-5 --22 Exhibit D, that was a request 23 -- the dates are wrong, first of all. This 24 should be 2014, so he had the date incorrect 25

M. BOVELL 218

and I subsequently followed and had my date incorrect.

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- Q. So, those two documents are generated in 2014?
- In 2013 I was still in Α. narcotics. This was when I asked out of narcotics the last time under Sergeant Fegan. So, the reason for this was during that time later that year when I asked prior, a little before I asked the narcotics unit supervisor, Sergeant Fegan, I had a case involving this suspect, believe. Sergeant Fegan, now that he has established that my position with his student, Antonini, he did not find me favorable at all. In other words, he did not trust me. So, it's safe to assume when you do bad things you expect bad things from others. He felt that I was somehow -- this only states that he felt that I was somehow hindering the investigation which was my investigation and I did everything possible and he felt that I was hindering the investigation and was upset about me leaving

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M. BOVELL 219

the unit. So, I did everything properly. I cleared out my desk, I returned the department phone and he, you know, he wanted information about the CI's. I told him, you know, the information's in the folder. All the information is there. He was upset that I left the unit and I was an asset to the unit based on my resources and my ability so this was his way of retaliating and using his power, exercising his power demeaning of me.

- Q. How did he retaliate against you?
- A. Well, first I was called into the office with Lieutenant Olifiers who's sitting in front of us right now, Lieutenant Olifiers is present and he gave this document to the patrol unit supervisor at the time and Sergeant Fegan is in narcotics. He gave him the document and while Sergeant Fegan was present he said I should answer this. It was given to me just like this without an envelope and he said I should respond to it. I asked, "What is this? I

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M. BOVELL 220

told you everything. I didn't do anything. During my time there I did everything correct." Even the times when Sergeant Fegan, at times we will be working cases and being productive and we were taken off cases by Lieutenant Fisher because, you know, for whatever reason. Even then I was still -knowing I was leaving the unit, I was still productive and I was giving less to my fellow officers so I didn't understand this. It seems as if I was disingenuous and I was hindering the progress or my ability so I asked him why, what is this and we had a discussion about this. I told him the information is in the CI folders so he felt that I was doing dirt as he's doing dirt and Antonini is doing dirt and when you do dirt you expect dirt. You don't think that people are like you, so this is what this I submitted -- I completed the MV-5 in a timely manner. It's dated wrong because as you can see just like the vehicles in the Mount Vernon Police Department the time machine doesn't work, you know, a lot of

M. BOVELL 221

things are not accurate. So, I use time machine which says November 30th, you know, it isn't inaccurate and I -- Lieutenant Olifiers directed me to put it in a nice envelope for Sergeant Fegan which I did and respectively submitted my response which is evidence C.

Q. As I understand from reading your MV-5 it appears that the CI information had been deleted by you the first time you thought about leaving the detective bureau?

THE WITNESS: The first time?

MR. SWEENEY: Yes.

A. No, that's not the first, this is the last time and the CI information was not deleted by me. This is indicating that I have a work phone. What was happening is that based on experience we were using a personal phone to contact CI's which was not favorable and unfortunately at the time, early in the time in the narcotics unit we weren't given departmental phones unfortunately so we're supposed to interact with CI's. We were supposed to use personal

M. BOVELL 222

phone so that became an issue. Over some time I guess we were able to pull some resources and we were given departmental phones so we can separate or personal life with our professional life and not have it, you know, intertwined in the event that a warrant for your phone record is requested. So, when I received first the department phone as again it wasn't assigned to me at the time, it was someone else and it was empty. I noted every information, all the phone numbers in my phone in the CI folder so I returned the phone the same day I was given the phone. I was not given a phone with other people's CI information so I returned the phone and I told Sergeant Fegan that the information is in the CI folder. If the CI wants to work with you you're going to control it, than fine, you know, so during this time, this is when Antonini was -- and before Antonini was taking CI's from other officers and coercing them and telling them, you know, basically lying to them, persuading them to work with him.

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223 M. BOVELL 1 2 Antonini was telling my CI's not to mess 3 with Bovell because Bovell is a bad cop, you 4 should work with me. He would intimidate these CI's to work with him because Antonini 5 wanted to vent and Sergeant Fegan wanted all 6 7 the rest in the world. They didn't care how 8 they got it. They wanted to arrest everybody. 9 Following your injury, your 10 11 line of duty injury which was July in 2014; 12 is that right, the date? 13 September of 2014, about Α. September of 2014. 14 15 You were approved for General Q. 16 Municipal Law 207c benefits or do you know 17 if you were approved for 207 benefits? THE WITNESS: 207c, that's the 18 19 benefits you get as a police officer 20 when you're injured on the job? 21 MR. SWEENEY: Yes. 22 THE WITNESS: Which include 23 compensation of salary and also medical benefits? 24 25 MR. SWEENEY: Yes.

M. BOVELL 224 1 Yes, I received a letter at 2 3 some point in time from Goldman, from -- I 4 don't know if he was Captain Goldman or Chief Goldman at the time because I know he 5 but I received a 6 was 7 letter indicating that I was approved for 8 the on duty benefits as a police officer under Civil Service law. 9 And you received your full pay 10 11 without taxes since September of 2014? 12 Since September 2014, yes. Is there any points where you 13 did not receive your full pay without taxes 14 15 after September of 2014? 16 Α. Yes. 17 When was that? 18 There's a point where -- there 19 was a point where in 2014 -- no, wait -- oh, 20 yeah, in 2015 I took vacation. I took some 21 vacation time to get out of the house and 22 that was deducted from my pay right after I 23 filed a lawsuit, yes. 24 You took vacation and your 25 vacation days were deducted from your 207

225 M. BOVELL 1 payment? 2 It was taxed, that's correct. 3 Is there any claim that that 4 was unlawful that you got charged vacation 5 that you took? 6 Well, I was told that it 7 shouldn't have but other than that, you 8 know, other than that, I don't know. 9 Have you grieved that vacation 10 Q. 11 being charged? I've been grieving a lot of 12 13 things. I've been under a lot of pressure and a lot of stress. Again, I'm still out 14 injured so I'm not there to communicate and 15 to go through the grievance process. I'm 16 dealing with my injury, I'm dealing with 17 recovery, I'm dealing with keeping my 18 benefits. I've been busy with my attorney 19 so I've been busy with those things, you 20 know, I've been very busy trying to deal 21 with healing from my injury. 22 What is your current status 23 Q. 24 with respect to your knee injury? You had one knee surgery and your doctor recommended 25

M. BOVELL 226

a possible second surgery?

I had one knee surgery in 2014 subsequent to the incident where I had slipped when I arrested a suspect and the doctors went in and they realized that there are other things happening in my knee. Because it's Workers' Comp and everything is procedure, they have to get approval and have the equipment ready. After that initial surgery in 2014 a request was made for the second surgery. During that time the request was made and submitted during the time of my Complaint for the EEOC. Things were delayed, the department delayed in approving. Eventually it was approved but I had to go through a series of harassment from the job in order to gain that approval and this third-party company called Disability Management, so I got that approval eventually after receiving that abuse and harassment and then I did the surgery, you know. The day after I did the surgery I got more harassment, you know, I just couldn't recover. I couldn't even --

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227 M. BOVELL 1 my plan was to do the sergeant test. 2 couldn't even focus but I came in to do the 3 sergeant test and I did my best effort on 4 5 medication even though I got a failing grade 6 at 60% but my plan was to do well but I couldn't study. I stayed focused. I just 7 did the surgery, a surgery that could have 8 been done earlier and I couldn't prepare 9 myself because of the stress that I was 10 going through. So, I did the surgery and I 11 had a few weeks of therapy and subsequently 12 therapy was stopped. So, for the surgery I 13 did, I did not have access to the therapy 14 needed to recover in a timely manner because 15 it was terminated by Mount Vernon Police 16 17 Department under Sergeant Goodman. know if he was Deputy Chief Goldman at that 18 time and Commissioner Burke and Commissioner 19 Raynor. 20 MS. BELLANTONI: Are you done 21 with your answer? 22 THE WITNESS: I am. 23 MS. BELLANTONI: I want to ask 2.4

you a question.

25

| 1 | M. BOVELL 228 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | Can we just take a brief two |
| 3 | minute break? |
| 4 | MR. SWEENEY: Sure. |
| 5 | (Whereupon Ms. Bellantoni and |
| 6 | the witness exited the room.) |
| 7 | Q. Officer Bovell, as I understand |
| 8 | it, you were provided a notice that your |
| 9 | 207c benefits would be terminated based on |
| 10 | your alleged non-cooperation with the city; |
| 11 | is that fair to say? |
| 12 | THE WITNESS: I don't |
| 13 | understand. Could you clarify? |
| 14 | MS. BELLANTONI: I'm sorry, the |
| 15 | city or Disability Management? |
| 16 | MR. SWEENEY: Disability |
| 17 | Management which is an agent of the |
| 18 | city. |
| 19 | THE WITNESS: Repeat that |
| 20 | again. |
| 21 | Q. Is it fair to say that you |
| 22 | received notice from the city that your 207c |
| 23 | benefits were going to be terminated based |
| 2 4 | on your alleged non-cooperation with |
| 25 | Disability Management Association? |
| | |

229 M. BOVELL 1 My 207c partially was 2 terminated, yes. It was terminated. 3 THE WITNESS: At what point in 4 time are you referring to? 5 MR. SWEENEY: This would have 6 been in 2000 -- per your Complaint, I 7 think you alleged it was in June or 8 so of 2015. 9 In June I received numerous 10 amount of communication threatening that my 11 -- from Deputy Chief Goldman at the time and 12 13 Lieutenant Nawrocki threatening that my 207c benefits were going to end. There were a 14 tremendous amounts of communication which 15 were actually sent to my home by Detective 16 Francis and Lieutenant Olifiers so I don't 17 know which one you're referring to. 18 We have a lot of documents and 19 Ο. a little bit of time so I can mark some 20 documents to help expedite this. 21 Including phone calls, anything 22 I got from Lieutenant Nawrocki that my 23 2.4 benefits are going to be terminated. MR. SWEENEY: Off the record, 25

| 1 | M. BOVELL 230 |
|----|---|
| 2 | please. |
| 3 | (Whereupon, a discussion was |
| 4 | held off the record.) |
| 5 | MR. SWEENEY: After |
| 6 | consultation with your counsel, |
| 7 | Officer Bovell, I think the parties |
| 8 | agree to suspend your deposition for |
| 9 | today and we'll resume it on a |
| 10 | different date for the balance of the |
| 11 | questions which should not exceed two |
| 12 | hours. |
| 13 | THE WITNESS: Okay. |
| 14 | MS. BELLANTONI: Is that all |
| 15 | right? |
| 16 | THE WITNESS: Yes, that's |
| 17 | perfectly fine. |
| 18 | (Whereupon this examination |
| 19 | concluded at 3:26 p.m.) |
| 20 | |
| 21 | |
| 22 | MURASHEA BOVELL |
| 23 | Subscribed and sworn to before me thisday |
| 24 | of, 2016. |
| 25 | Notary Public |

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF NEW YORK)
)ss.:
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER)

I, LISA DOBBO, a Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of New York, do hereby certify:

That MURASHEA BOVELL, the witness whose deposition is hereinbefore set forth, was duly sworn by me, and that such deposition is a true record of the testimony given by the witness.

I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of October, 2016.

LISA DOBBO SHORTHAND REPORTER

EXHIBIT PAGE

| Defend
Exhibi | | Page
Number |
|------------------|---|----------------|
| А | Code of Conduct | 0 4 |
| В | MV-5 Officers Report | 0 4 |
| С | MV-5 Officers Report | 0 4 |
| D | Letter dated 1-9-13 | 0 4 |
| E | MV-5 Officers Report | 0 4 |
| F | Email dated 3-31-14 | 0 4 |
| G | MV-5 Officers Report | 05 |
| Н | Harassment Complaint 5-6-1 | 4 05 |
| I | Confidential Harassment
Complaint Form | 0 5 |
| J | Personnel Performance
Evaluation | 05 |
| K | Harassment Complaint 5-6-1 | 4 05 |
| L | MV-5 Officers Report | 05 |
| M | Text | 05 |
| N | Charge of Discrimination | 06 |
| 0 | Discrimination Complaint | 06 |
| Р | Handwritten Note | 06 |
| Q | Letter dated 8-12-15 | |
| | | |
| | (O-++ | |

(Continued on next page)

| | | | 233 |
|----|--|-----|-----|
| | | | 233 |
| R | Walmart Receipt | 06 | |
| S | Computer Screen Shot | 06 | |
| T | Photocopy of Photograph | 06 | |
| U | Summons and Complaint | 98 | |
| V | MV-5 Officers Report | 98 | |
| W | Email dated 2-12-13 | 153 | |
| X | Significant Enforcement
Activity Report | 153 | |
| Y | Handwritten List | 153 | |
| Z | News Article | 153 | |
| AA | News Article | 153 | |
| ВВ | Log Details | 153 | |
| СС | Personal Performance
Evaluation | 190 | |
| | | | |

ERRATA SHEET

The following corrections, additions or deletions were noted on the transcript of the testimony which I gave in the above-captioned matter held on 10/21/16:

| Page | Line | _SHOULD | READ: |
|--------|-----------|---------|-----------------|
| REASON | FOR CHANG | GE: | |
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|------------|------------|---|
| | | |

| | | | | 235 |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| \$ | 2013 - 27:6, 23; 28:5, 9; 71:6, | 63 - 134:21 | addicts - 44:21 | 177:21 |
| J | 14, 21, 24; 77:22; 80:21; 84:4, | 682-1888 - 1:25 | Addison - 151:7, 15; 152:20; | allege - 90:13; 124:2; 177:21 |
| \$100 - 74:24; 75:9; 92:12; 93:4, | 10, 12; 85:24; 86:5; 97:10, 17;
109:14; 110:7, 20; 113:19; | ALANA CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRA | 200:15, 20 | alleged - 101:7; 148:12;
228:10, 24; 229:8 |
| 12, 18, 94:2; 100:6; 101:21; | 120:23; 124:10; 128:6; 143:9, | 7 | additions - 234:2 | allegedly - 64:20; 155:14; |
| 110:25 | 12; 165:15, 20; 184:23; 185:2; | | Address - 2:7, 12 | 165:8 |
| \$50,000 - 131:17; 132:2 | 218:6 | 7 - 102:10; 113:11 | address - 4:3; 7:2; 10:22;
108:21; 152:9, 21; 197:4; | allowed - 124:4, 18 |
| | 2014 - 14:13, 24; 15:12, 16, 23; | 72 - 134:21 | 207:10 | allowing - 125:10 |
| • | 17:23; 18:5; 28:10, 14, 17, 22;
107:12; 143:6, 8, 14; 157:24; | 73 - 138:16 | addressed - 60:5; 196:16, 20 | allows - 125:20 |
| | 158:4; 165:15; 170:2; 172:12; | 75 - 148:7 | addressing - 217:17 | ally - 102:25 |
| '11 - 26 :15 | 177:14, 16; 184:24; 185:3; | 76 - 148:9; 149:13 | admin - 203:19 | alone - 87:11 |
| '14 - 27:6 | 190:3-5; 202:3; 207:14; 210:9; | 77 - 148:7, 9, 21; 149:13 | administer - 3:12; 179:9 | ambiguous - 9:3, 6 |
| 179 - 10:20 | 216:12; 217:25; 218:5;
223:11, 13-14; 224:11, 15, 19; | 78 - 150:20 | administered - 179:2 | ambition - 129:13 |
| | 226:3, 11 | 79 - 158:24; 167:11 | administration - 132:22; | amended - 181:21; 183:17; |
| 0 | 2015 - 17:20, 24; 224:20; 229:9 | 7:15-CV-08594-CS - 1:7 | 149:19; 181:8; 182:13; 215:6,
12, 23 | 184:7; 189:17, 20; 190:3, 6-7;
191:3, 5; 192:13; 193:7; |
| | 2016 - 1:17; 230:24; 231:17; | | administrative - 12:17 | 214:6, 22 |
| 0364 - 209:9 | 234:23 | 8 | admission - 132:11 | American - 30:4, 10; 33:10; |
| 04 - 232:6 | 207 - 17:22; 223:17; 224:25 | 9.49.45 0.40 000.00 | Adonaro - 31:18; 49:16, 20; | 35:4; 51:3; 52:7; 54:12; 55:22; |
| 05 - 232:12-15, 17 | 207-c - 28:20, 24; 29:6 | 8-12-15 - 6:10; 232:23 | 53:20, 22; 63:2; 87:16; 88:11; | 56:8, 21; 58:6, 18, 20; 59:20;
73:8; 133:21; 134:4; 146:6, 9; |
| 06 - 232:20-22; 233:3 | 207c - 223:16, 18; 228:9, 22;
229:2, 13 | 83 - 157:17, 24
87 - 177:21 | 114:15; 117:21; 119:10; | 150:15; 155:19 |
| A. A | 21 - 1:17 | 8th - 210:9 | 121:23; 123:3, 18, 21, 23;
133:18 | Americans - 54:7, 17; 65:21 |
| 1 | 21st - 39:3, 13; 41:10 | 011-210.5 | advanced - 21:22 | amount - 229:11 |
| | 24 - 27:13; 135:15 | 0 | advantage - 59:5; 137:9 | amounts - 229:15 |
| 1 - 4:3 | 25th - 231:17 | 9 | adverse - 214:3, 25; 215:17, | AMY - 2:8 |
| 1-15-15 - 6:4 | 28th - 202:3 | 914 - 1:25 | 25 | AND - 1:9-13; 3:6, 17 |
| 1-9-13 - 4:19; 232:9 | 29 - 82:5 | 96 - 177:21 | adversely - 214:12 | ANS - 21:22 |
| 10/21/16 - 234:4 | 29th - 120:23; 157:24; 172:12; | 98 - 233:6 | Advil - 10:11 | answer - 7:16, 21; 8:14, 22; |
| 1000 - 1:24
104 - 216:11 | 207:14 | 99 - 2:12 | advised - 95:4; 159:11; 167:10; | 29:2; 81:22; 105:12; 128:24; |
| 105 - 201:24 | | 00-2.12 | 169:10; 172:22; 183:7; 200:18 | 147:22; 193:6; 219:22; 227:22 |
| 10550 - 1:17; 4:5; 7:4 | 3 | . A | advising - 157:16 | answered - 9:18; 195:17
Antonini - 25:12; 34:7; 56:24; |
| 10583 - 2:8 | | | Affairs - 110:13; 181:14, 17;
182:10; 188:13, 23 | 57:4; 59:22; 60:2; 62:4, 9; |
| 10606 - 1:24 | 3 - 208:11 | A-V-I-O-N - 169:16 | affect - 206:13 | 63:17, 23; 64:4, 17; 65:16, |
| 10:00 - 1:18 | 3-31-14 - 4:25; 232:11 | a.m - 1:18; 98:7 | affiliation - 145:24 | 18-19, 24; 66:2, 9, 13, 21-22, |
| 11 - 36:18; 135:18 | 30 - 135:15 | AA - 153:18; 211:5; 233:12 | affiliations - 139:13; 145:10 | 24; 67:14, 16; 68:6, 8; 70:2,
19; 72:8; 73:3, 7, 11; 74:15; |
| 110 - 201:24 | 30th - 18:20, 24; 221:3 | abilities - 142:22 | afraid - 44:24; 78:13, 15, 17-18; | 75:10, 16, 20; 76:17, 22; 78:2; |
| 11:42 - 98:7 | 31st - 184:23; 185:3 | ability - 10:9; 45:6, 12; 135:5; | 89:20; 146:18; 196:25; 201:13 | 85:23; 86:9, 14, 24; 87:22; |
| 11:57 - 98:8 | 32 - 67:12, 15; 112:15 | 219:9; 220:13 | African - 30:4, 10; 33:10; 35:4; | 88:21; 89:6, 16; 90:15, 18; |
| 12 - 36:17; 135:20 | 33 - 72:5 | able - 66:10; 130:5; 222:3 | 51:3; 52:7; 54:7, 12, 17; | 91:4, 8, 22, 24; 92:12, 14, 18;
93:11, 18; 94:13, 15-16; |
| 13904 - 2:13 | 34 - 72:24; 74:7; 75:15; 99:5;
112:25 | aboard - 55:25; 56:3; 57:4-7, | 55:22; 56:8, 21; 58:6, 18, 20;
59:20; 65:21; 73:8; 133:21; | 95:17; 99:7, 14; 100:5, 8, 11, |
| 153 - 233:8 | 35 - 90:12, 23; 91:2, 21; 99:5, | 17 | 134:4; 146:6, 9; 150:15; | 19, 22; 101:7, 21, 24; 102:3, |
| 15th - 210:8 | 12, 25; 100:3, 16 | above-captioned - 234:4
abrasive - 69:15 | 155:19 | 12, 20; 103:4, 8; 104:6; |
| 16 - 148:18 | 36 - 67:12; 74:14; 75:15, 19 | abrasive - 69:15
absent - 158:4 | african - 51:4 | 106:25; 108:2, 7, 18; 109:4;
112:11, 16; 113:20; 114:4, 6, |
| 17th - 10:19 | 37 - 75:13; 99:19; 111:2 | abuse - 45;9; 85:16; 100:13; | African-American - 30:4, 10; | 19; 115:7, 20; 118:25; 119:23; |
| 18 - 134:23; 137:12; 142:16;
144:5, 22; 145:8; 152:17; | 38 - 75:13 | 108:8; 127:11; 139:5; 199:15; | 33:10; 35:4; 51:3; 52:7; 54:12;
55:22; 56:8, 21; 58:6, 18, 20; | 122:20; 124:3; 125:8, 14, 23; |
| 211:25 | 39 - 75:13; 99:20; 111:2 | 215;5; 226:22 | 59:20; 73:8; 133:21; 134:4; | 126:4, 20; 131:2, 25; 156:23; |
| 190 - 233:14 | 3;26 - 230:19 | abusive - 64:25; 117:3 | 146:6, 9; 150:15; 155:19 | 162:21; 188:25; 212:19;
218:16; 220:18; 222:21; |
| 1974 - 207:6 | | academy - 23:2, 9, 24; 24:2 | african-American - 51:4 | 223:2, 5 |
| 1993 - 82:6 | 4 | accepted - 25:14, 18-19; 27:9, | African-Americans - 54:7, 17; | Antonini's - 83:10; 101:11; |
| 1997 - 18:20, 24 | | 21; 50:5; 55:12; 61:15 | 65:21 | 108:5, 21; 110:19; 112:24; |
| 1:06 - 152:24 | 40 - 102:9; 104:17 | access - 227:14 | afterwards - 61:16 | 113:12; 132:11 |
| 1:40 - 152:25 | 400 - 2:7 | accident - 148:9, 17; 149:18;
159:4; 164:18; 165:7, 16, 20 | age - 11:22 | anyplace - 19:7 |
| 1st - 143:14; 184:23; 185:2 | 42 - 113:10 | accidents - 137:20; 164:23 | agent - 228:17 | anytime - 10:6 |
| | 43 - 116:20 | according - 90:4; 97:11; 169:7 | ages - 11:20
aggression - 102:16 | apartment - 66:11, 17 |
| 2 | 45 - 113:10 | accounts - 19:14 | aggressive - 103:9, 12, 17; | apologetic - 70:22 |
| | 46 - 84:3; 97:9 | accrued - 144:9, 22; 148:19 | 105:16: 114:6, 19: 119:20 | apologize - 184:10; 193:11
apologized - 196:4 |
| 2 - 1:16; 2:7; 7:3 | 48 - 95:3 | accumulative - 198:2 | aggressively - 117:11; 162:15; | apologizing - 190:9 |
| 2-12-13 - 153:5; 233:8 | | accurate - 100:2; 179:17; | 168:10 | applied - 190.9
apparent - 215:20 |
| 2000 - 25:12; 26:5, 14; 163:4; | 5 | 221:2 | ago - 14:11; 106:22; 107:3 | appeal - 149:23; 180:13, 16; |
| 229:7 | | accurately - 209:19 | agree - 94:20; 99:6; 180:3; | 182:25; 185:13; 189:11; |
| 2007 - 19:6, 8; 23:3, 10; 24:23;
25:3; 47:12; 156:10, 13; | 5-6-14 - 5:7, 16; 232:13, 17 | accused - 64:20 | 192:11; 230:8 | 192:13; 193:6 |
| 163:22 | 50 - 1:24 | achieve - 129:16 | AGREED - 3:7, 18 | appealed - 148:22; 150:2; |
| 2009 - 25:8; 58:9; 59:16; 62:5; | 52 - 122:5
520201402659 - 207:7 | achieved - 124:24 | agreeing - 101:15 | 180:12; 189:17; 196:15;
210:22 |
| 163:3 | 53 - 123:25: 124:9 | act - 101:13; 115:18; 207:6 | ailment - 205:15
ain't - 67:19 | appealing - 215:8 |
| 2010 - 24:23; 25:5, 8, 13, | 58 - 123:25 | action - 126:25; 148:23;
165:13; 198:10; 214:25; | airbag - 165:25 | appearing - 210.6
appear - 208:10 |
| 16-17, 24; 29:9, 13, 16; 30:22;
39:6; 50:14 | 59 - 124:2 | 215:17: 216:2; 231:13 | alcohol - 122:22: 123:12 | appearance - 185:11 |
| 2010-2011 - 31:16; 32:3, 19: | | Action - 1:6 | alcoholism - 122:8, 14 | apples - 102:6 |
| 33:19 | 6 | actions - 87:24; 108:5; 127:2; | Alec - 2:18 | application - 192:20 |
| 2011 - 18:4; 25:21; 26:4, 6, 8, | О | 198:6; 214:4; 215:4, 16 | alike - 67:8 | applied - 155:17 |
| 10, 16-17; 27:4, 21-22; 29:16; | 6 - 99:4: 110:23 | active - 35:15; 178:6, 22; | allegation = 99:7, 13: 104:16; | apply - 151:20 |
| 30:22; 39:3, 14; 41:10; 47:2; | 60 - 96:7, 10: 124:23; 128:5 | 179:15, 19; 185:6; 198:25 | 111:15; 122:5; 139:18; | appointment - 182:9. 14 |
| 48:18; 50:14; 51:17; 52:10;
54:17; 71:10 | 60% - 227:6 | activity - 130:21; 233:9 | 148:21; 164:16; 211:18 | appreciate - 82:11 |
| 2012 - 18:4 | 62 - 130:24 | Activity - 153:8
acts - 101:14: 115:24 | allegations - 67:13; 75:13: | apprehend - 45:7; 125:16; |
| | | auta - 101, 14, 113.24 | 124:17; 130:5; 134:22; 148:6; | |

162:3. 13 apprehended - 45:9; 105:15; apprehending - 45:2; 55:17; 103:9 approached - 59:23 approaching - 104:8 approval - 226:9, 19, 21 approve - 76:24; 77:25; 173:18 approved - 223:15, 17; 224:7; 226:16 approving - 226:16 April - 184:23; 185:2 area - 46:16: 48:13 areas - 24:19 arquing - 156:10 arised - 26:24 arrest - 28:13; 37:8; 39:23; 100:13; 118:8; 124:5, 19, 21; 125:4, 18; 162:18; 163:21; 164:8: 178:10: 185:5: 199:4: 209:6. 18: 213:18: 223:8 arrested - 66:18; 126:11; 130:9; 164:2; 165:8; 209:8, 10; 210:13; 226:5 arrestee - 213:21 arresting - 161:25 arrests - 37:9, 11; 96:4, 8, 10, 24; 118:7; 124:23, 25; 126:22; 209:7; 210:7; 211:11, 13 arrogance - 168:14 arrogant - 159:13, 18 arrow - 80:3 arson - 113:18 Article - 150:20; 153:15, 18; 233:11 articles - 211:3, 10 asleep - 69:8 asset - 219:8 assign - 203:21 assigned - 24:4; 26:22; 32:11. 23; 48:11, 21; 66:3; 88:9; 140:4; 160:20; 177:19; 178:13: 222:10 assignment - 27:19; 46:14; 65:17: 67:2: 140:3, 8: 141:16: 142:3, 5; 152:18; 204:6 assignments - 23:14, 19; 26:7; 88:22; 153:25; 154:12 assist - 120:4 associate - 21:22 associates - 17:7, 11 association - 141:3 Association - 228:25 assume - 7:17, 22; 13:4; 24:23: 114:11: 135:11; 136:18: 156:20: 161:14: 187:13: 194:17: 195:23: 205:10; 208:18; 218:18 assumption - 7:18; 8:15 AT - 1:16 AT&T - 19:12: 21:19: 22:8 attached - 186:10, 16; 187:10, 13, 17 attachment - 172:5, 7, 9 attachments - 186:8; 187:18. 22 attack - 198:12 attacked - 181:6 attained - 160:23 attempt - 191:21 attempted - 104:14; 190:11 attempting - 85:23 attend - 16:15, 24: 18:9: 22:25; attendance - 158:2 attending - 17:25: 129:20 attention - 98:23; 99:4; 201:14

attitude - 185:7

attorney - 8:19, 25; 9:4, 6, 13, 18; 38:17; 81:4, 24; 107:6, 22-23; 113:7; 117:23; 151:7, 10. 16: 184:18: 199:19: 225:19 Attorneys - 2:6, 11 attorneys - 3:7 August - 124:10 authority - 80:9; 107:15; 178:25; 198:17; 213:7 authorized - 3:11 automotive - 20:13 available - 202:17, 20: 204:3 Avion - 169:14 avion - 169:15 avoided - 196:20 awarding - 136:20 aware - 16:5: 88:18: 90:14: 91:3, 22; 93:10; 99:13; 100:18, 21, 24; 101:10; 113:12; 159:8; 188:11, 22; 189:24; 190:2; 199:2

В

B-R-I-L-E-Y - 144:5 bachelors - 17:8 background - 16:8 backlash - 145:22; 146:23 bad - 60:19; 78:16; 85:7; 102:6-8; 112:4; 126:23; 205:4; 218:19; 223:3 bag - 70:8, 13; 78:20; 79:10; 84:6, 15; 89:19; 94:11; 97:11; 106:6; 107:18; 109:13; 119:23; 120:2, 5, 8, 11-12; 121:5; 162:6, 12; 164:7 balance - 230:10 Barbara - 59:18 barking - 90:2, 8 baseball - 65:25; 66:2 based - 36:25; 42:18; 57:12; 67:8: 71:23: 73:21: 77:2: 78:13, 24: 79:25: 89:15: 101:9, 12-13; 102:5; 119:17; 128:8; 129:11, 14; 132:17; 135:8, 11; 136:25; 138:5; 139:13; 140:19; 142:17; 143:18; 149:22; 186:17; 195;7; 198;11; 219;9; 221;19; 228:9, 23 basis - 59:8; 100:23; 164:19; 177:25; 187:4; 197:15; 208:18 bate - 81:9, 16; 82:18, 21; 120:18; 171:18; 184:18; 185:25; 190:24; 199:18; 206:21: 208:2: 211:5: 212:5: 213:12 baton - 90:9 BB - 153:21: 233:13 beat - 64:17; 86:7, 15, 17; 156:25; 162:12; 164:5 beating - 64:21; 86:9 beautiful - 11:21 became - 35:21; 55:14; 70:3; 102:16; 114:6, 19; 138:24; 145:12; 215:11; 222:2 become - 22:24: 215:10 becoming - 216:14 began - 66:15; 104:3; 114:9; 145:9; 188:24 begin - 189:6 beginning - 23:15 behalf - 152:3 behaving - 168:16 behavior - 78:15; 83:10: 86:2, 4: 94:18: 101:16: 102:24: 108:21: 125:21: 129:17 belief - 59:9; 71:22; 107:14: 141:2: 197:16

Bell - 50:24; 51:2, 21; 54:10 BELLANTONI - 2:6, 8; 28:25; 57:21; 76:19; 81:7, 25; 82:13, 20, 25; 83:6; 98:3; 128:19; 139:21; 151:8, 19; 203:9; 227:21, 24; 228:14; 230:14 Bellantoni - 81:17; 228:5 belong - 138:5; 145:25; 156:22 belonged - 156:4 below - 192:9 benefited - 146:11, 13 benefits - 223:16, 19, 24; 224:8; 225:19; 228:9, 23; 229:14, 24 benefitted - 154:20 best - 8:10; 10:4; 63:5; 195:14; 201:16; 206:15; 227:4 better - 58:23; 96:2, 25; 118:10; 119:12; 179:25; between - 3:7; 15:23; 17:23; 28:23; 29:5; 38:8; 40:21; 42:3; 52:3; 66:16; 70:5; 131:10; 197:7; 202:24; 203:4 beyond - 191:25 big - 103:13 bigger - 201:14 biggest - 213:19 Bill - 163:22 hills - 201:7 Binghamton - 2:13 biracial - 34:22, 25 birth - 10:17 19 bit - 23:13; 40:4; 53:9; 104:4; 156:16; 179:23; 229:20 black - 58:24; 59:5, 14; 60:18; 61:4, 17, 25; 64:18, 21; 66:23; 67:18; 69:13, 16; 86:7, 9, 16; 88:17; 90:15; 91:4, 23; 92:5, 13; 93:5, 8, 12, 18; 94:3; 95:21; 99:15, 21; 100:7, 14; 101:4 21: 102:13 20: 103:21: 104:18: 106:10: 107:16: 109:5; 110:24; 112:7; 113:25; 114:10; 115:25; 116:4, 22; 118:16; 119:12, 17; 124:24; 125:4; 128:11; 131:4, 22; 135:14; 137:21; 138:19; 139:3, 8, 20; 140:6, 17-18, 21, 25: 141:23: 143:21: 144:21: 145:11, 25; 147:24; 148:16, 22, 25; 152:5; 156:6, 8, 10, 12, 15, 19; 159:3, 20; 163:23; 164:8; 167:13, 17, 20, 24; 168:7, 18; 169:4, 9, 11; 179:5; 191:11: 198:16: 215:21: 216:7 blacks - 133:5; 156:16 blame - 132:6 blamed - 131:22; 132:12 blood - 231:14 blue - 80:10; 215:13 board - 54:19; 60:7; 62:15; 79:14; 84:23 BOCES - 19:11, 16; 22:8, 10-11, 15, 21, 23 body - 77:3, 25; 113:3; 190:13 boggling - 174:25 bold - 200:19 book - 112:6, 9; 124:25; 130:4, 16; 196:10; 199:21, 24 books - 46:10 boom - 147:19 boost - 96:23; 118:9; 124:5, 19 boosted - 124:21 boosting - 126:21 born - 11:3 bought - 130:11 BOVELL - 1:4, 19; 4:2; 230:22: 231:9: 234:21 Boyell - 6:24: 7:5: 10:18: 11:15:

41:7: 50:12: 67:10: 72:6: 73:3:

74:16; 84:5; 85:2; 87:20; 91:19; 95:4; 98:17; 102:11; 110:24; 122:4; 128:7; 153:23; 207:8, 11; 213:4; 223:3; 228:7; 230:7 bovell.00053 - 82:23 Boyell 00071 - 82:24 bow - 129:25 bowed - 129:24 bowling - 117:20, 25; 119:9; 123:12 Bradley - 54:19 break - 8:25; 9:17; 10:5; 62:3; 70:25; 98:4; 228:3 breaking - 64:23 brief - 228:2 briefly - 16:7; 62:10; 198:8 Briley - 56:10; 144:5; 145:14, 18; 146:17; 147:25 bring - 120:4; 212:14 broke - 153:23; 154:11 broken - 201:10 Bronx - 16:25; 17:8; 165:24 Bronxville - 166:7 brought - 7:10; 14:17; 36:3; 38:10 bruises - 164:6 brush - 147:17 buckle - 114.9 bulldog - 68:9 bullied - 181:7 bumps - 142:23 bureau - 29:9, 17, 23; 30:15, 18, 24; 31:2, 6, 8, 22; 32:12; 39:5; 50:13; 52:10; 53:8; 54:4; 55;5; 58;24; 63:18; 64:6; 65:6; 71:9: 110:6: 121:14: 134:24: 137:13; 142:10, 25; 143:2, 6, 10; 145;5; 217:11; 221:12 BURKE - 1:10 Burke - 138:17, 21-22; 139:18; 140:16; 148:15, 24; 149:25; 150:10: 163:22: 165:18: 183:11; 227:19 Burke's - 139:15; 140:7 business - 4:3; 6:25; 132:16; 134:18 businesses - 22:6 busy - 225:19 Butler - 166:6, 22, 24 buys - 37:7 BY - 2:8, 13; 6:21 Byram - 22:17 С

C-U-R-Z-I-O - 174:4 Caldors - 20:2, 7, 15 caldors - 20:4 calm - 114:21 campus - 18:17 cannot - 195:10 CAPACITY - 1:9-11, 13 capacity - 12:10; 13:19, 22; 135:15; 142:15; 199:8 Caparro - 32:24; 33:2-4, 13, 24; 34:5; 36:16; 37:23; 40:18, 20, 24; 41:15, 25; 42:10, 19; 43:17 24: 44:9 16 23: 45:5: 46:3: 50:6. 10: 57:20. 23. 25: 161:25: 163:20 Caparro's - 43:18: 162:17 Captain - 7:8; 31:18; 49:16, 20; 63:2; 87:15; 114:15; 117:21; 119:10; 121:23; 123:2, 18, 21-22: 135:20: 138:18: 139:19: 140:16: 173:15: 174:6. 10. 14: 175:2: 177:7. 18: 180:14: 224:4

captain - 53:20-22: 123:13, 16:

136:24; 137:3; 177:10 CAPTAIN - 1:10 captains - 137:4 captioned - 234:4 car - 48:12; 68:3, 5; 69:7, 9; 72:13; 73:15; 137:19; 159:4; 165:6, 16; 166:2 Carbell - 156:14 care - 97:2: 126:22: 223:7 career - 26:19; 62:20; 65:13; 80:11; 85:7; 127:8; 142:21; 170:23 careful - 45:8 Caribbean - 11:3 carpet - 166:15 case - 15:11; 111:12; 162:17; 176:15; 209:10; 212:12; 213:4, 8; 218:13 cases - 72:20: 220:5 cashier - 20:12 cat - 136:11 catching - 175:15 category - 157:18 Caucasian - 30:6: 33:5: 34:13. 23; 35:2; 36:9; 43:7; 53:17, 24-25; 79:2; 181:19 caught - 95:25; 175:6 causes - 91:15 caveman - 103:11 CC - 190:18, 20; 191:2; 233:14 Center - 22:14 certain - 7:9: 62:13: 153:25: 169:4: 172:23: 188:13: 194:12; 196:17 certainly - 8:10, 22; 10:6; 81:15 certified - 26:18 certify - 231:8, 13 chain - 69:24; 78:12; 110:14; 111:17; 127:15; 132:10; 134:9; 136:22; 163:14; 183:8; 216:23 challenge - 88:19 challenged - 149:22 change - 46:12; 70:21; 83:24; 94:24 CHANGE - 234:7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 changed - 156:15; 161:14-16; channeled - 129:18 character - 67:8; 89:4; 102:5; 127:9; 129:13 Charge - 5:25; 207:4, 6; charge - 30:13: 31:14, 18: 51:21; 53:21; 102:22; 207:20, 24; 208:19; 211:18 charged - 225:5, 11 check - 130:8; 186:15 checked - 195:18 checking - 73:16 checks - 204:10, 15 Chester - 19:14: 21:17 chief - 59:17: 64:9: 96:12 Chief - 59:19; 177:8; 180:15; 183:11; 224:5; 227:18; 229:12 children - 11:17, 25 choice - 42:24: 129:14 chose ~ 65:14 chronic - 169:24: 170:3, 25: 176:3. 17: 186:12: 187:20 chronically - 157:18; 158:11; 173:3 chronology - 42:18 Cl - 37:2, 4; 105:10: 124:4, 17: 125:7, 10, 12, 19; 126:2, 7: 130:5, 14; 220:16; 221:10, 16: 222:13, 16, 18 Cl's - 37:7; 103:10, 24: 104:6, 8, 15; 219:5; 221:20, 25;

159:2; 167:13, 16; 168:3;

106:8; 118:24; 131:14;

158:25; 177:9; 198:18; 224:6

167:23; 169:9

219:11

222:22: 223:2. 5 community - 24:7, 9; 36:25; 46:15; 61:25; 69:10; 86:16; Cingular - 19:12 95:21: 109:6: 113:25: 114:2 circle - 123:15: 134:15: 157:5 11. 20: 116:10: 118:18: 119:5: circled - 185:14 125:5. 11: 145:11. 21: 146:9. circumstances - 159:9; 208:6; 22: 162:11 commuter - 17:12; 130:19 citizens - 67:18 comp - 173:12; 174:20 City - 7:7; 67:21; 103:19; Comp - 226:8 204:11; 211:15 company - 19:13; 21:9, 16; city - 1:8; 14:3; 24:18; 100:14; 107:5, 22; 185:19; 201:6, 12; 204:8; 213:20; 228:10, 15, 18, compare - 83:4 compared - 69:14; 156:11; 167:24: 177:3 Civil - 224:9 comparison - 117:2 civil - 1:6; 13:15; 14:25; 15:2, 10; 16:2, 4; 151:4; 154:22 compensation - 223:23 civilian - 166:3 competitiveness - 125:2 complain - 69:22; 85:13 civilians - 166:4 civilly - 164:11 complained - 75:6, 9 complaining - 187:6 claim - 225:4 complaint - 75:8: 85:10: 87:8: clarification - 82:12 92:8; 123:4; 128:21; 173:2; clarify - 44:6; 228:13 174:20; 185:18; 187:4, 15; clarity - 9:4 189:12; 193:7; 209:13; 216:11 Clark - 60:10, 24; 61:2 Complaint - 5:7, 10, 16; 6:4; class - 18:15 10:22; 11:2; 23:13; 24:22; classes - 18:15 67:9; 71:3; 75:14; 84:3, 9; clear - 69:19; 88:13; 110:4; 90:13; 91:20; 95:3; 97:12; 114:18; 147:23 98:12, 20, 25; 99:4; 110:24; 122:5; 124:2; 128:6; 148:7; cleared - 219:3 157:17, 23; 177:20; 181:25; client's - 82:3 182:2; 201:23; 210:16; Clinton - 52:4 211:19: 226:14: 229:7: close - 68:7: 160:3: 183:5 232:13. 17. 21: 233:6 clothes - 120:8, 11 complaints - 187:25; 188:5; co - 74:2; 160:9; 161:8; 212:17 208:13, 21 co-signing - 74:2 complete - 184:13, 15 co-workers - 160:9; 161:8; completed - 220:21 completely - 189:19 Code - 4:10: 82:4: 232:6 complimented - 198:24 code - 80:10 component - 34:21 coercing - 104:9; 222:23 computer - 17:12; 22:19; cohesive - 45:21 208:25; 209:20 collect - 120:7 Computer - 6:16; 233:4 College - 17:2, 8 Con - 200:11, 18; 201:22; 202:7: 203:13, 17: 204:5, 9, college - 16:14, 22 18: 205:3: 206:6: 215:18, 22: color - 147:23 216:5 combative - 44:23 concealed - 73:5 comfortable - 67:25; 70:4; concentration - 17:11 83:22; 96:19; 131:11, 14; concern - 41:18, 24: 126:19 198:19 concerned - 124:20; 172:10; coming - 113:19 command - 69:24; 78:12; 173:20 110:14; 111:18; 127:16; concerns - 44:8; 70:6, 20 132:10; 133:21; 134:10; concluded - 185:4: 230:19 136:23; 163:15; 183:9; 216:24 conclusion - 199:11 commenced - 143:13 concur - 95:22: 179:11. 14 commended - 212:20, 22, 24 concurred - 46:2; 141:13 comment - 72:18; 97:11 condescending - 69:16; comments - 67:17: 68:12: 114:10; 116:4, 22; 117:4; 69:22; 71:2, 13; 112:12, 17 118:15: 159:2: 167:12. 16. 19: commission - 54:9 168:3. 11 COMMISSIONER - 1:8 conditions - 9:25 condone - 95:22: 129:17 commissioner - 50:15, 24: 55:2: 133:22. 24: 136:16. 19. condoned - 87:21; 113:12 23; 137:4; 138:24; 139:6; condones - 101:13 150:11, 15: 156:15: 181:4: condoning - 77:5; 86:4; 100:4; 182:6; 207:21 126:20 Commissioner - 50:24: 51:2. Conduct - 4:10; 82:5; 232:6 21; 54:10; 134:5; 138:17, 22; conduct - 95:8; 113:13: 139:15, 18: 140:15: 148:23: 115:17; 149:3; 159:3; 167:13 149:25: 150:10, 12, 14: conducting - 72:25; 92:17 156:14: 165:18: 177:5: 183:3. 6, 10; 189:24; 227;19 confer - 8:23 commissioners - 50:20 conferring - 81:18 communicate - 76:23; 125:9; confided - 62:13: 67:6 225:15 confidential - 37:4

communication - 229:11, 15

communications - 42:6;

Community - 16:25: 17:8

151:10.13

Confidential - 5:10: 232:14

confrontation - 196:25

confirm - 169:12

conflict - 199:2

confrontational - 44:20 confused - 142:2 connected - 137:19 consented - 90:14, 18; 91:3; 99:14 consequences - 170:24 considered - 142:6 consisted - 33:20 consists - 82:5 constantly - 122:22 constituted - 127:2 constructive - 62:20; 129:4 constructively - 128:7, 15 consult - 8:25: 9:17 consultation - 230:6 consulted - 151:6: 152:6. 19: 172:23: 200:15 contact - 196:21: 200:2; 221:20 contain - 120:2 contained - 120:6 context - 13:2 continually - 67:17 continue - 10:15: 139:19 Continued - 232:25 continued - 95:2: 140:16 continues - 138:18 continuous - 27:22; 125:22; 215:5 contraband - 126:8 contractor - 22:6 control - 133:5: 222:20 conversation - 72:13; 84:7, 10, 14; 90:4; 94:11; 96:9; 97:4, 8, 10, 13, 19; 106:5: 121:6: 126:5: 131:8: 149:8; 186:18: 194:21: 201:5; 202:24; 203:3; 216:13; 217:3 conversations - 42:3 cooperation - 228:10, 24 cop - 223:3 copied - 121:22; 212:23 copy - 81:13, 15; 82:18; 98:19, 24; 171:23; 172:2, 4; 180:8, 11; 191:16; 203:4 Corporate - 2:12 Corporation - 1:16 correct - 41:9, 11; 44:12; 45:13; 48:19; 53:5, 12; 64:3; 88:23; 90:16; 99:10, 25; 102:17; 113:8; 122:11; 124:10: 128:12: 135:2: 138:20; 141:18; 143:7; 150:13; 169:15; 177:6, 23; 185:20; 187:2; 201:24; 220:4; 225:3 corrected - 181:23: 184:3 corrections - 234:2 correspond - 123:22 - 100:9, 15; 182:11 , 18, 25; 89:13: 195-8 Coughlin - 7:6 COUGHLIN - 2:11 Counsel - 1:16 counsel - 129:2: 176:19: 230:6 counseled - 170:16, 18; 175:24: 176:2, 17, 21 counseling - 170:14, 18 counter - 10:12 counties - 10:23 counting - 57:13 country - 11:4

COUNTY - 231:5 county - 10:24; 139:12 County - 10:25; 139:12; 140:12 couple - 73:11; 107:2: 137:16; 196:12, 14 course - 24:13; 37:9; 39:25; 43:5; 73:9: 183:25; 210:13;

deleted - 221:11, 17 deletions - 234:3 deliberately - 196:20 demand - 171:11 cover - 85:17; 132:8; 175:25; demeaning - 95:7, 15; 116:3; 176:9; 191:21; 195:9; 200:13 covered - 165:17; 166:14, 19; demeanor - 73:22: 95:20: demoted - 138:3; 151:24; demotion - 159:10; 165:22 denied - 173:14 crime - 46:16: 211:15 criminal - 13:2, 9, 12, 14; 15:25 criteria - 142:17; 170:2 Curzio - 174:4; 175:3; 176:18 custody - 86:7; 102:14; 103:5; 104:18; 105:7; 106:10; 108:3 customers - 22:5, 7

211:21; 217:7

court - 9:21; 13:9

Court - 1:20: 151:5

COURT - 1:2

covers - 192:3

create - 126:18

created - 177:22

creating - 129:25

credibility - 118:9

crimes - 24:18

criticizing - 198:7

cross - 195:13

crying - 140:10

current - 225:23

D

date - 10:17, 19; 39:2, 13, 16;

217;25; 218:2; 223:12; 230:10

dated - 172:12; 220:22; 232:9,

103:6; 207:12; 209:11;

curse - 183:13

Damn - 72:7

11, 23; 233:8

dates - 217:24

dating - 48:5

David - 60:10

Davis - 52:5: 134:2

196:12: 224:25

212:15: 213:19

deal - 225:21

dealt - 22:18

DEC - 68:3

154:2, 11

63:16: 65:9

deemed - 80:7

death - 111:24

DeBarro - 135:17

days - 43:3, 18, 20; 69:18;

148:25: 172:10: 175:3:

DEA - 212:14; 213:6, 20

dealing - 103;10; 225:17

December - 26:4; 71:10

decision - 62:20; 87:17;

deducted - 224:22, 25

Defendant - 148:15

decisions - 135:25: 138:14:

135:10; 136:25; 202:14; 206:6

declined - 25:12; 61:16; 62:24;

defendant - 13:21; 14:3; 16:4

Defendant's - 4:9, 12, 15, 18,

21, 24; 5:3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18,

21, 24; 6:3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18;

153:4, 7, 11, 14, 17, 20;

190:17; 211:4; 232:4

Defendants - 1:14: 2:11

defendants - 7:10: 82:8

160:14; 169:7; 177:24;

191:25: 215:3. 25

define - 68:8

degree - 17:14

delay - 40:13

degrees - 17:3, 6

delayed - 226:15

38:17; 98:11, 14, 18; 120:15;

definitely - 67:23; 68:25. 124:7:

dealers - 36:25; 44:21; 73:8;

Department - 19:2; 58:17; 79:20; 80:2; 85:13; 103:16; 127:12; 134:13, 20; 166:7; 173:23; 176:8; 190:14; 195:11, 25; 206:19; 207:10, 12; 208:14; 220:24; 227:17 department - 20:12: 22:22: 23:11, 15; 25:9; 51:22; 59:11: 85:18; 112:2; 122:19; 133:6; 134:19; 136:5, 7-8, 14-15, 17; 138:14, 17; 140:23; 141:6; 145:22; 146:4, 22; 149:24; 150:6; 151:22; 165:9; 175:5; 180:19, 25; 181:3, 9; 188:12, 19; 189:13; 192:25; 194:12, 14; 201:4; 206:17; 209:6; 219:4: 222:9: 226:15 department's - 88:12; 188:2 departmental - 221:23; 222:4 departments - 58:3; 188:13 deposition - 3:9, 14; 81:11; 230:8; 231:10 Depot - 21:8, 12, 14 deputy - 150:11 Deputy - 138:17; 139:15, 18; 148:23; 150:10; 180:15; 183:11; 227:18; 229:12 DEPUTY - 1:9 derogatory - 86:19 describe - 75:12; 95:25; 124:16; 209:3 described - 203:14 Description - 232:4 desk - 175:7; 194:23; 195:6; 200:6; 216:20; 217:6; 219:3 destroyed - 196:3 detail - 23:13; 92:10; 201:18; 202:7; 203:17; 204:5 detailed - 181:10 Details - 153:21; 233:13 details - 12:16; 14:2; 200:11; 203:22 detective - 23:17; 25:7; 26:23; 27:12, 16, 20; 29:8, 17, 23; 30:15. 18. 24: 31:2. 6. 8. 21-22: 32:12: 34:4. 7: 35:7: 36:17; 39:5; 44:12; 45:17; 46:22; 47:9; 48:19, 25; 50:13; 51:7, 14; 52:10; 53:8; 54:4; 55:5: 58:24: 63:17, 21: 64:6: 65:6: 66:24; 71:9; 87:13, 16; 106:20; 109:21; 110:6; 112:24: 120:25: 121:14: 127:20: 134:23: 135:16: 136:21; 137:13; 142:10, 14, 18, 25; 143;2, 6, 10, 23; 144:16, 25; 145:5; 147:10-12; 148:2; 150:19; 152:16; 163:7; 165:21; 166:17; 199:7; 217:11; 221:12 Detective - 25:11; 32:13, 24-25; 33:3, 6, 8, 24-25; 34:3, 5; 37:23; 39:22; 40:22; 41:8, 15. 25: 42:10, 19; 43:17, 24; 44:9. 16. 23: 46:3: 50:6. 9: 54:19: 56:24: 57:18. 22. 25:

60:11, 25; 62:4; 63:22; 64:4;

65:16: 66:21: 67:14. 16:

70:11; 72:8; 73:3; 74:15

75:10; 76:22; 78:2; 85:23; division - 23:16; 25:7; 26:23; 86:9. 23: 87:7. 22: 88:21: 27:2, 12, 16, 20; 35:7; 44:12; 89:6. 15: 90:15: 91:3. 22. 24: 45:9, 21-22; 47:7; 48:19, 25; 92:12, 14; 93:11, 18; 99:7, 14; 51:7: 87:17: 88:14 100:4, 6, 18; 101:21, 24; Dobbo - 1:25: 4:6 102:12, 19; 103:4; 107:12; DOBBO - 231:7, 21 108:15, 18; 110:19; 111:9-11; doctor - 195:17: 225:25 112:11, 16; 115:20; 122:19; doctors - 226:6 124:3; 126:13; 127:18; 130:25; 132:10; 135:17, 20; document - 37:20; 44:15; 82:4; 138:21; 144:7; 145:13, 18; 172:14; 187:22; 190:23; 208:12; 212:4; 213:11, 16, 18; 149:11, 14: 163:20; 165:25; 212:19: 229:16 219:19. 21 detectives - 31:14; 33:18; documentation - 15:8; 182:18; 53:15; 55:22; 56:9; 57:13; 186:21; 187:16; 188:15; 144:19 209:12, 18 developing - 159:22 documented - 46:7; 196:9 devices - 21:25 documenting - 37:21: 41:24: 42:2 dialogue - 118:23; 131:9; 169:3 documents - 42:8: 182:20: 208:5; 209:22; 218:4; 229:19, die - 72:8 21 dietary - 20:21 dog - 136:10 difference - 28:23; 29:5; 156:4, dominated - 58:16 21: 157:8 different - 23:7; 45:22; 50:20; done - 36:2; 65:16; 66:25; 78:5; 71:7; 76:14; 79:13; 94:23; 85-14-88-23-103-8-131-25-134:13: 135:6: 151:3: 157:2: 230:10 179:3; 180:20, 22-23; 183:5, differently - 167:23; 169:6 8; 189:10, 14, 22; 191:25; difficult - 9:25; 18:16 193:11; 196:16; 197:5; direct - 98:22; 99:3; 160:15; 204:21, 24; 227:9, 21 161:15: 198:12 dot - 195:13 directed - 39:10; 70:15; down - 7:15; 9:23; 43:6; 55:21; 113:21; 114:5, 12, 17; 125:15; 62:3: 70:17, 25: 80:12: 96:15: 217:17; 221:5 114.9 21-22: 116.5: 117:4: direction - 112:4: 142:24: 119:16, 18; 145:24; 181:9 206:2 draft - 182:7 directive - 41:13 drain - 80:12 directives - 42:5 draw = 201:3 14 dirt - 220:17 draws - 199:10 dirty - 100:9; 108:6 drink - 122:22 Disability - 226:20: 228:15, 25 drinking - 123:11; 174:16 disability - 228:16 Drive - 2:12 disagree - 185:15 driven - 154:13; 199:13 disagreement - 183:13 driving - 68:3; 72:21; 119:3; disaster - 201:18 165:9; 166:2; 205:18, 21 discharge - 129:5 drove - 162:19 discharged - 128:7, 16 drug - 36:25: 37:6: 39:22: disciplinary - 148:23; 150:4; 44:21; 73:8; 124:4, 18; 130:6; 165:13; 198:10 213:19 discipline - 148:11 drugs - 66:7, 11, 14, 17; 125:17, 20; 126:8; 130:11, 13; disciplined - 137:16; 175:13; 213:22 214:11 discovered - 160:7 - 166:2 due - 95:6; 122:7; 145:9, 20; discriminated - 181:7: 208:9 Discrimination - 5:25; 6:4; duly - 4:5: 231:10 207:5: 232:20 discrimination - 128:10; Dumser - 180:15 172:10; 208:15, 17, 20 Dunkin - 59:18: 64:9 discriminatory - 95:8, 16; duration - 43:16 116:21: 118:14 during - 15:21; 24:12; 26:8; discuss - 35:18: 40:23: 179:10: 31:16, 23; 32:15; 36:4, 23; 196:8 37;8; 39:25; 40:25; 41:19; 43:5, 23; 51:5; 53:7; 68:20; discussed - 37:12; 41:4, 20; 71:6; 73:9; 83:11; 84:14; 93:2; 59:10: 67:3: 79:23: 83:12: 104:21; 109:13; 125:3; 155:8; 84:24: 94:18: 123:7: 124:15: 173:6, 9; 178:17; 182:17; 172:20; 198:3 183:25; 185:5; 190:9; 194:19; discussing - 54:8; 133:8 210:8, 13; 211:12, 21; 212:13; discussion - 9:10; 70:15; 218:9; 220:3; 222:21; 226:12 83:20; 84:20; 94:13; 101:15; Dutchess - 10:25 109:14; 121:6; 122:2; 181:10; 186:24: 220:15: 230:3 duties - 13:3 duty - 28:21, 24; 29:6; 55:16; discussions - 88:25; 144:15; 64:19: 79:18: 80:23: 88:22: 159:6: 164:18: 165:10. 16: disingenuous - 205;7; 220:12 223:11: 224:8 dismantled - 40:21; 64:9, 14 Duvania - 11:14 disparagingly - 148:16 DUVANIA - 11:14 dispatch - 217:8 district - 22:17 Е DISTRICT - 1:2 disturbing - 116-9

221:22 earned - 96:21 Ed - 200:11, 18; 201:22; 202:7; 203:13, 17; 204:5, 9, 18; 205;3; 206:6; 215:19, 22; 216:5 edge - 170:17 education - 129:20; 173:20 educational - 16:8 EEOC - 181:25: 182:2: 183:23: 189:22; 192:19; 196:8; 207:6; 208:5, 22; 226:14 effect - 3:13 effecting - 28:12 effective - 207:5 effort - 227:4 efforts - 45:22 eight - 11:22 either - 13:21; 35:2; 63:15; 103:4; 110:12; 112:5 elaborate - 128:18 electronics - 20:11 Email - 4:25; 153:5; 232:11; 233:8 email - 121:22: 171:11. 23: 172:2, 4; 175:9, 14, 16, 18, 24; 176:23; 177:4, 17; 178:23; 198:6: 212:9, 11, 20, 23, 25; 213:25; 215:9 emotions - 199:13 employed - 12:4, 10; 207:11 Employment - 207:21 employment - 12:9; 18:19; 73:9: 214:4 empty - 222:12 end - 26:5; 27:3, 20, 23; 28:5, 8; 37:17; 51:17; 113:19; 194:20; 229:14 ended - 164:10 Enforcement - 153:8; 233:9 enhanced - 142:12 entire - 31:5 entirety - 185:16 entitled - 82:4 entity - 192:21 entries - 112:10, 21; 130:16 entry - 130:4: 196:11: 205:24 envelope - 219:24; 221:6 environment - 128:9 Egual - 207:20 equipment - 226:10 equivalent - 16:12 ERRATA - 234:2 error - 191:9 errors - 193:11 erupted - 70:5 escalate - 90:6 especially - 118:6; 213:4 ESQUIRE - 2:8, 13 essentially - 187:10 established - 68:10; 218:15 ESU - 72:23 ethic - 60:3 evaluated - 207:17 evaluation - 171:15: 177:12, 18, 23; 178:3, 8, 19; 179:2, 7, 9, 13, 18, 24-25; 180;8, 10, 17; 181:21: 183:17: 184:8, 22; 185:2, 14-15, 20, 22; 187:20; 189:17: 191:3 6 8 24: 192:3 6-7, 12, 14; 193;12; 196;4, 14; 197:11, 14, 19; 199:13; 200:2; 207:17: 209:14; 210:20, 22, 25; 211:22; 214:5, 15, 21-22; 215:9: 232:16: 233:15 Evaluation - 5.13: 190:18 evaluations - 178:18 Evans - 166:24

event - 113:20; 192:5: 222:7

early - 119:9: 124:10: 163:2:

divided - 48:11

156:14; 226:16, 21 everyday - 134:18 evidence - 120:5-7, 12; 221:8 evident - 127:8 exact - 64:11 exactly - 16:10; 24:25; 26:20; 28:15; 31:19; 32:9; 38:10; 42:13, 17; 43:4; 50:19; 52:18; 53:17; 71:6; 75:18; 105:22; 109:18: 170:5: 204:24 exam - 173:13 Examination - 1:19 EXAMINATION - 6:21 examination - 98:7; 152:24; 230:18 example - 13:6: 23:16: 67:15: 117:7: 134:25: 139:14: 140:14, 20; 154:18; 155:6; 156:3, 7; 168:2; 173:8 examples - 119:11; 139:17; 140:15: 154:5: 165:4 exceed - 96:24; 230:11 exceeded - 144:21 except - 3:18: 187:18 exceptional - 170:20 exchanged - 118:22 execute - 36:24 executed - 143:14; 213:8 execution - 37:11 exemplified - 142:22 exercise - 178:25 exercising - 219:11 EXHIBIT - 232:2 Exhibit - 4:9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24; 5:3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24; 6:3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18; 38:21; 39:8, 11, 18, 40:15; 41:12, 23; 44:7; 81:4; 98:11, 14; 120:15, 19; 121:14; 153;4, 7, 11, 14, 17, 20; 171:25; 172:7, 25; 176:16; 177:4; 184:17; 186:5, 9. 19; 187;5, 7, 9, 14; 190;17, 20; 191:2; 199:17; 202:23; 206:20, 25; 207:3, 25; 208:12, 23; 209:3, 12, 24; 211:4; 212:3; 213:10, 24; 217:16, 18 exhibit - 172:4: 186:6, 23: 207:19; 208:7; 212:8; 213:24; 217:23 exhibits - 98:10: 211:13 Exhibits - 171:17, 20; 185:24; 217:9, 14; 232:4 existence - 61:19 evited - 228 6 expect - 85:14; 218:19; 220:19 expectations - 44:2 expected - 182:22 expedite - 229:21 expeditious - 40:8 experience - 31:7; 60:15, 19; 61:17, 21; 62:18; 63:12; 79:25; 96:16; 135:21; 139:9; 160:11, 13, 15; 161:16, 21, 23; 162:9; 167:15; 221:19 experienced - 29:22; 61:4; 78:14: 104:13: 111:25: 132:17: 141:20-22: 195:9 experiences - 181:12 experiencing - 159:25; 189:3 explained - 70:20; 94:22; 95:23 express - 79:6 expressed - 40:22; 43:12; 60:14; 119:6; 141:10, 12; 204:25 extent - 128:22: 129:13 eye - 196:21

events - 91:22; 198:3

eventually - 44:11; 53:2;

F F'ing - 84:6 face - 64:24; 86:18; 147:17; 162:16; 196:6 faces - 103:23 fact - 71:23; 147:9; 152:15 failed - 44:2; 197:2 failing - 227:5 fair - 7:18; 8:15; 11:13; 41:17; 87:19; 148:12; 150:5; 209:14; 228:11, 21 false - 177:22; 192:12; 197:11 falsely - 178:20 far - 13:18; 16:9; 24:17; 36:22; 37:13, 17; 56:15; 80:19; 113:9: 152:13: 170:20: 173:20; 176:10; 211:14 - 218:13 fashion - 158:22 father - 117:23 fault - 149:18 favorable - 118:2; 218:17; 221:21 favored - 156:8 favorite - 157:3 favoritism - 59:3: 85:16 FDO - 178:13, 16; 210:14 feared - 199:12 fearful - 103:14; 112:3; 145:19 February - 184:25 feedback - 43:14 feet - 175:9, 19 Fegan - 29:19, 24: 53:3, 11: 58:14; 59:25; 67:6, 13, 16; 68:6, 21; 69:12; 70:2, 6; 71:16, 20, 23; 72:6; 75:4; 83:9, 13-14, 16; 84:5, 24; 85:22; 86:14; 88:9, 11, 15; 89:12; 90:14, 20; 91:3, 7, 11, 16, 21: 92:6, 11, 24-25; 93:4, 11, 14, 20, 24; 94;4, 10, 12; 95:4; 97:5, 14; 99:13; 100:4, 8, 11, 18, 21, 24; 101:2, 10, 15, 20; 102:4, 16, 21; 104:2, 20; 105:25; 106:3, 7; 108:6; 109:13; 110:8, 16, 20; 111:14, 20-21; 112:16; 113:11; 114:13, 18, 25; 115:13; 116:21; 118:15, 25; 119:14; 121:23; 122:21; 123:7; 124:3, 14, 20: 125:15, 25: 126:20; 128:8; 133:18; 135:19; 152:7; 160:3; 163:6; 188:25; 217:11; 218:9. 12. 14: 219:20. 22: 220:5; 221:6; 222:17; 223:6 Fegan's - 68:9; 95:7, 15; 143:13 fellow - 220:11 felt - 18:16; 35:25; 37:10, 16, 23: 38:11: 50:4: 59:19: 62:14. 17, 21; 63:4; 69:10; 70:18; 73:23; 83:21; 89:2; 116:11; 119:4; 131:10, 13; 137:17; 158:18; 159:15; 181:5; 196:23: 198:11, 19; 205:7: 218:20, 24; 220:16 female - 14:21; 92:5, 13; 93:5, 8, 12, 19; 94:3; 99:21; 100:7; 101:4, 22: 110:25: 112:7: 140:21: 141:2: 146:6 female's - 74:25 females - 156:16 few - 25:25: 29:13: 43:3, 18, 20: 58:18: 63:2: 113:18: 166:16; 178:14: 208:4: 227:12 field - 26:12, 18; 201:9; 210:8 fight - 44:21 file - 152:2, 11 filed - 98:19; 150:20; 151:4; 181:24; 183:23; 192:19; 224:23

around - 162:14

group - 20:19, 23; 21:2; 35:17;

filing - 3:9; 207:20 fill - 121:19 fine - 82:22: 83:7: 150:3: 222:20; 230:17 fined - 164:11; 165:12 finesse - 103:11 finest - 46:2 Fireball - 122:23 fired - 137:21 firm - 7:6 FIRM - 2:6 first - 19:15, 17, 24: 29:9. 12-13 20-21: 31:5, 7: 32:3, 11, 20; 35:7; 36:12; 39:5; 46:21; 47:4; 50:13; 54:6, 15; 63:7; 64:6, 8; 66:3; 69:5, 11; 71:16; 78:23; 83:9; 103:3; 109:4; 121:3; 143:12; 169:17; 177:25; 180:9; 187:2; 197:11, 14, 19; 210:5; 211:12; 217:24; 219:15; 221:11, 13, 15; 222:9 First - 111:8, 12 firsthand - 167:6: 168:15 Fisher - 25:10; 58:11; 59:12, 24; 60:5, 16-17, 21; 61:5, 14; 62:7: 63:2. 24: 64:13: 65:20. 23. 25: 66:4. 9. 16. 20: 68:11: 73:10; 88:10, 14; 133:9, 17-18; 155:13; 160:24; 162:10; 163:5; 220:7 five - 24:3: 98:4 fix - 183:7; 190:11; 201:12 fixed - 183:19, 24; 184:3, 5, 12; 192:10 flip - 104:11 flipped - 125:7 flooring - 19:13; 21:16 flow - 126:19 focus - 24:9, 16; 46:17; 129:21; 227:3 focused - 227:7 folder - 219:6; 222:13, 18 folders - 220:16 follow - 189:11 follow-up - 189:11 followed - 180:18; 218:2 following - 121:14; 182:16; 185:21; 217:18; 223:10; 234:2 follows - 4:7 fond - 65:24 foot - 201:16: 206:15 FOR - 234:7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, force - 3:12; 63:6, 8, 12; 102:13; 132:2; 139:2, 16, 23; 141:18; 142:3, 10, 13, 19, 25; 206:13; 212:14; 213:21 forced - 118:3; 129:5, 7; 170:22; 190:11 forgot - 21:21; 24:8, 12: 53:18. 24-25; 57:4; 78:25; 163:8 form - 3:19; 9:7; 29:2; 76:20; 187:10: 207:5 Form - 5:11: 232:14 former - 200:21 forth - 73:15; 156:17; 173:2, 14; 188:3; 189:4; 213:23: 231:10 forward - 201:16: 206:16 four = 53:6: 54:11 17 20: 55:21; 56:8; 58:6 Francis - 2:18; 229:17 fraternity - 134:17; 138:6; 146:2

freelance - 46:10

fresh - 80:16

friction - 70:5

Friday - 117:24

friend - 183:6

freely - 67:24: 68:6: 69:9; 122:15-17; 125:20; 131:12

friends - 117:22: 123:2, 15: 160:3 front - 13:7; 67:11; 70:8, 10; 74:4; 219:17 FT - 178:11 FTO - 141:4 fuck - 83:17, 19; 106:6; 114:8; 115:23; 116:5; 117:10, 12 fucking - 70:8, 13; 119:22; 121:5; 126:15 full - 6:22: 162:2: 224:10, 14 function - 134:12 functional - 201:11 functioning - 201:11 FURTHER - 3:17

G

gain - 137:8; 226:18

Gallagher - 179:22, 24:

180:13; 215:6; 216:12, 18

game - 200:24; 201:2 garage - 72:23 Garcia - 84:21, 23, 25; 122:19; 125:3, 7, 127:24 gathering - 120:5 Gene - 149:10, 14, 21 gene - 149:11 General - 223:15 general - 143:3; 144:8 generalize - 178:4 generate - 172:19 generated - 38:24; 39:12, 19; 40:15; 121:13; 172:15, 24; 176:3, 16; 177:13; 214:20; 218:5 genuinely - 205:2, 11; 206:4 geographic - 48:13 GERHART - 2:11 Gerhart - 7:7 gestures - 77:3, 25 GIU - 143:3 given - 59:4; 69:18; 135:22; 137:25; 146:24; 166:4, 22; 179:5; 215:14; 219:23; 221:23; 222:4, 15; 231:11 aloating - 131:11 gloves - 120:6 goals - 96:13 gold - 96:20; 135:18, 22-23; 137:25: 146:15: 211:22. 25 GOLDMAN - 1:11 Goldman - 7:8; 138:18; 139:19; 140:16; 177:8; 224:3-5; 227:18; 229:12 Goodman - 227:17 gotta - 170:12 grabbing - 103:22 gracefully - 129:25 grade - 142:19: 227:5 gradually - 156:16 graduate - 16:19; 17:19; 19:20 graduated - 23:23 araduatina - 24:2 grain - 150:9; 215:13 Grand - 13:6, 8 areat - 213:2 Greg - 151:7, 15; 152:19; 200:15, 20 grievance - 152:2 11, 13: grieved - 225:10 grieving - 225:12 Griffin - 54:19; 56:10: 57:16: 70:11; 108:16; 116:25; 117:14: 118:4, 6; 126:13, 17; 127:18-20; 144:7, 23; 165:25 Griffin's - 111:10, 12

37:10. 12: 45:19. 23: 46:4. 6: 56:25: 57:9: 64:9. 14: 89:25: 125:15; 135:12; 138:5; 155:5; 157:7; 158:21 groups - 145:24; 156:2, 21; 158:16 grow - 66:15 guess - 40:7; 43:3, 13; 49:8; 64:12; 67:7; 88:25; 118:13; 134:11; 139:10; 160:19; 168:22; 175:9; 183:24; 201:4; 203:20; 217:6; 222:3 guidance - 178:16 guide - 200:12 guiding - 62:19 guilty - 206:17 aun - 122:10 guy - 103:13; 106:25; 108:2; 115:5 guys - 106:24; 107:25; 108:25; 113:24: 115:23: 147:18: 213:5 herein - 3:8

hereinhefore - 231:10

highly - 140:22; 141:2

himself - 66:16; 67:4; 68:10;

hereunto - 231:17

herself - 145:3

176:11

higher - 90:6

Hills - 22:17

73:7, 10

hire - 204:18

156:20

HIS - 1:9-11, 13

Hispanics - 65:22

historically - 75:17

holding - 78:19, 21; 79:10;

89:18; 107:18; 162:6, 12;

home - 12:5; 20:19, 23; 21:2;

202:15: 205:18, 22: 229:16

130:19; 174:15; 200:17;

Home - 21:7, 12, 14

homicide - 63:11

honorary - 55:2

hostile - 128:9

Hudson - 22:14

185:18; 186:25

hurt - 42:11: 44:17

19, 21; 154:19

l's - 195:13

I-B - 34:17

ID - 209:9

147:20

ideal - 192:25

husband - 145:10; 146:8, 12,

husband's - 145:20: 146:20

ı

Ibanez - 33:25; 34:14-16, 18,

idea - 87:14; 88:3; 107:7;

Identification - 4:11, 14, 17,

20, 23; 5:2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17,

20, 23; 6:2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17,

20; 98:13, 16; 153:6, 10, 13,

16, 19, 22; 190:19

identified - 131:15

identifyina - 133:11

Immaculate - 158:2

46:24: 83:23

images - 199:20; 202:23

immediately - 138:2, 25;

140:5; 182:25; 185:21

impartial - 193:2; 199:11

improvement - 185:8, 11

inaccurate - 178:20; 179:18;

impact - 24:11, 14

important - 92:9

impounded - 73:17

impressive - 128:10

IN - 1:9-11, 13; 231:16

inability - 199:5

191:20; 221:4

immediate - 29:10; 32:7, 10;

21; 57:14, 19, 25

Hunt - 135:21

homes - 73:2, 14; 74:5

hospital - 39:25; 166:13

hours - 148:18; 230:12

historic - 58:6

hitting - 116:6

Hold - 195:21

164:7

hole - 67:21

Н

half - 69:7; 201:10 hand - 184:16; 208:23; 212:3; 213:10: 231:17 handcuff - 162:8 handcuffed - 86:25; 162:18 handcuffs - 86:17: 106:25: 108:3 Handed - 98:21; 184:20; 199:22: 203:2: 206:23: 208:3: 209:2; 213:13 handed - 38:19; 70:24; 81:6; 120:16; 171:19; 186:2; 190:21; 210:2; 211:7; 212:6; 217:12 handing - 185:24; 190:20; 207:25 hands - 109:5; 116:8 Handwritten - 6:7; 153:12; 232:22: 233:10 handwritten - 209:25 Hang - 147:14 happy - 7:14 harassment - 189:14; 226:18, 22, 24 Harassment - 5:7, 10, 16; 232:13, 17 hard - 48:4 harder - 119:19 harsh - 148:11 harsher - 150:3 Hastings - 173:15; 174:6, 11, 14; 175:2; 180:14 hate - 199:14 haters - 141:8 head - 95:19; 122:11; 127:4 healing - 225:22 health - 206:9 hear - 67:22; 126:4 heard - 61:17; 68:15; 69:5; 72:6; 107:11; 122:20; 168:14; 181:14 hearing - 36:13; 149:24 heavily - 125:6 HELD - 1:16 held - 1:20; 9:11; 19:15, 17; 122:3; 230:4; 234:4 hell - 115:17; 117:10; 177:24 help - 82:19: 162:5: 192:24: 213:9: 229:21 helped - 162:13 helping - 40:9; 74:5

HEREBY - 3:6

hereby - 231:8

Inc - 1:23 high - 16:11, 13, 15, 17; 19:20; hindering - 218:22, 24; 220:13 190:4 Hispanic - 34:23; 35:2; 56:22; 210:19 13 house - 66:6; 195:2, 20; 224:21 human - 180:25: 181:4: 182:5: 24

inadequate - 62:22 inappropriate - 159:19 incident - 37:14; 38:7; 42:8; 44:15; 47:13; 92:3; 93:3, 23, 25; 102:2; 112:14; 122:9; 124:9; 125:22; 127:23; 131:16; 157:19; 158:7; 162:17; 163:25; 164:12; 171:12: 182:3: 196:10: 201:22: 203:13: 226:4 incidents - 43:25; 102:2; 112:11; 113:2, 18; 123:25; include - 223:22 included - 62:25: 200:4 includes - 173:5 including - 69:13; 108:20; 177:7; 229:22 incompetence - 199:4 incorrect - 99:18; 178:9; 179:15; 191:13; 217:25; 218:3 incur - 214:3 indicate - 158:24; 207:13; indicated - 44:8; 56:7; 58:5; 104:19; 178:8, 10; 191:5, 7, indicates - 113:11; 172:11; 207:10; 213:21 indicating - 100:11; 172:3; 221:17; 224:7 indication - 178:6 individual - 22:6; 129:15; 162:3; 163:8; 166:5; 191:15 INDIVIDUALLY - 1:9 individually - 152:12 individuals - 37:8; 99:9; 134:10 infecting - 206:11 inferior - 207:15 influence - 145:21; 146:21; 178:11; 213:8 influenced - 206:5 informants - 37:4 information - 17:16, 18; 37:2; 46:18; 61:23; 62:13, 21; 65:15; 66:19; 77:19; 125:19; 136:9, 12; 137:2, 6; 140:19; 145:14, 19; 146:25; 147:5, 8; 149:10: 160:8: 161:8. 10-11: 166:4, 22; 186:16; 191:14, 17, 19; 219:5, 7; 220:16; 221:10, 16; 222:12, 16, 18 Information - 22:14 information's - 219:6 informed - 157:25 inhibit - 10:9 initial - 124:13; 184:22; 226:11 initiative - 54:21: 132:25: 185:9 injured - 14:14; 15:18; 28:6, 11-12, 16; 37;15; 38;2; 52;24; 55:18: 71:17: 155:9. 24: 190:4. 8: 192:15: 193:9: 196:6: 223:20: 225:15 injuries - 164:6 injury - 28:21, 24; 29:6; 55:16; 194:19; 223:10; 225:17, 22, innocent - 206:18 input - 43:14 inside - 90:3 instance - 84:4: 117:9: 146:13: 161:24 instructed - 40:11 instrumental - 212:16 intention - 73:24: 201:15 intentional - 191:9; 197:16 interact - 69:12: 117:13: 166:10; 221:24 interacted - 116:25

interacting - 103:22; 166:12 interaction - 160:21, 23 interactions - 123:20 interacts - 159:14 interest - 185:7; 195:14 interested - 231:14 Internal - 110:13: 181:13, 15, 17: 182:10: 188:13. 23 intertwined - 222:7 intervene - 192:22 intervening - 108:12; 115:15 interview - 109:7 interviewed - 50:3: 130:9 intimidate - 104:15; 223:4 intimidating - 104:11; 105:16 - 122:24; 159:5; 164:18, 25; 165:10, 16; 166:8 inventory - 73:15 investigate - 90:7 investigated - 85:15 investigation - 86:22; 109:8; 130:10; 143:3; 182:22; 189:6; 218:22, 25 investigations - 144:8 investigator - 142:15 involved - 90:10; 131:21; 146:19; 148:8, 10; 149:17; 159:4; 164:2, 17, 22; 167:5; 176:9; 198:9 involvement - 136:3, 20

59:12: 104:5: 150:19: 189:23: 190:6; 196:9; 201:3, 14; 222:2 issued - 82:6: 207:17 issues - 24:17: 36:21: 40:24: 64:16; 217:18 issuing - 158:3 IT - 3:6, 17; 22:16 itself - 61:13: 63:14: 190:13

involving - 165:7; 218:13

issue - 22:5; 35:12; 38:10;

irate - 40:4, 25

IS - 3:6, 17

jail - 44:22

Jamaica - 11:5: 16:18: 19:21 January - 25:20; 28:10; 39:2, 13: 41:9: 143:14: 144:24: 145:17; 158:4; 210:8 jaw - 64:23 Jeremy - 203:6 Jerome - 149:10, 14, 21 job - 12:13, 15, 17; 13:11; 19:15 17 24: 37:18: 109:23: 120:13: 129:6: 137:18: 156:9, 13: 157:2: 163:22: 175:7: 213:2: 214:3, 25: 223:20: 226:18 join - 25:10; 58:10; 60:6; 61:14; 62:8.15 joined - 23:2, 10; 64:6; 71:9 ioining - 25:9 joke - 72:11 Jones - 144:23; 145:3; 146:5; 154:18 iudgement - 185:12 Judy - 181:2, 4; 182:6; 186:17; 188:7: 189:25 July - 28:14; 84:4, 10; 85:24; 97:10 17: 109:14: 110:7, 20: 120:23: 202:2-4: 223:11 iump - 63:12 June - 18:20, 23: 229:8, 10 Jury - 13:6, 8 iury - 15:13

justice - 192:23; 193:3, 5

Κ

keep - 79:17; 80:10, 16;

124:18; 130:6; 166:11; 213:4 keeping - 9:22; 37:16; 225:18 kicked - 71:20; 78:22; 79:17; 86:13; 89:14; 131:22; 132:7; 162:7. 22 kicking - 86:24; 162:21 kid - 140:7 kind - 92:9; 125:2; 126:15; 154:2 Kinaston - 16:18 kitchen - 20:22 knee - 28:12; 225:24; 226:3, 7 knowing - 195:6; 201:16; 220:9 knowledge - 65:4; 72:17; 100:24: 101:14: 164:19: 167:7: 216:6 known - 41:2; 49:8; 59:12; 64:17. 25: 101:23: 103:20: 105:13, 15: 109:4, 6: 118:5: 125:5: 140:22: 198:15 knows - 178:21; 179:18;

L

182:10: 198:11: 199:9

labeled - 85:7 lack - 199:5 lacking - 37:11 laid - 117:15 language - 77:25; 113:3; 115:21 laptops - 22:2 large - 95:6 last - 15:21; 54:15; 143:10; 218:8; 221:16 laughed - 72:11 law - 7:6: 224:9 Law - 223:16 LAW - 2:6 lawsuit - 7:9; 13:15, 24-25; 14:4, 17, 25: 16:2, 4: 109:18: 224:23 lawsuits - 15:10; 151:5 lead - 44:11; 181:18 leader - 145:11: 146:9 leadership - 55:13; 134:7 learn - 159:24 learned - 65:7; 89:17, 19; 161.4 lease - 134:16 least - 77:13: 157:11 leave - 42:20: 70:23: 94:25: 143:19; 186:12 leaves - 174:5 leaving - 158:21: 218:25: 220:9; 221:12 Lee - 140:21; 141:17; 169:13-15, 20 left - 22:23; 27:15, 17; 35:7; 50:9: 52:15: 57:14, 19-20, 24; 78:19: 87:10: 101:17: 115:4: 147:19: 162:8, 11, 23: 164:5; 219.8 legal - 128:21, 23; 150:20 Leone - 33:21, 25; 34:11; 38:5; 42:11; 195:19, 21 less - 138:19; 139:19; 140:17; 141:20; 169:2; 220:10 lesser - 149:2 lesson - 89:17, 19 Letter - 4:19; 6:10; 232:9, 23 letter - 186:3: 224:2. 7 letters - 200:19 level - 135:6: 168:22 lie - 191:9, 22; 197:14; 198:14,

23 lied - 177:23; 197:10, 16 lies - 191:12 Lieutenant - 2:18: 7:9: 54:23: 56:6: 58:11: 60:24: 61:5; 64:13; 65:20, 23, 25; 66:20; 88:14; 114:14; 133:18; 157:24; 174:4; 176:18; 179:22, 24; 180:13; 181:18; 215:6; 216:12, 18; 219:16; 220:7; 221:4; 229:13, 17, 23 LIEUTENANT - 1:12 lieutenant - 53:24: 79:2: 155:13, 16, 21; 177:10; 216:20 lieutenants - 30:13; 31:12, 17; 47:20: 53:13, 19; 134:9; 137:5: 155:8: 156:12 life - 24:17; 63:9; 126:16; 211:14; 222:5 light - 109:9; 150:17; 176:24; Light - 57:8, 10; 117:17, 19, 24; 119:8, 24: 122:6, 14 Light's - 117:22 limited - 123:21 line - 18:12-14: 21:10, 12: 223:11 lines - 65:8 LISA - 231:7, 21 Lisa - 1:25: 4:6 List - 153:12; 233:10 list - 154:23: 155:8 17: 200:19: 205:9, 13; 206:6, 9; 209:25; 210:10; 215:19, 23; 216:5 listed - 10:22 Listen - 60:5; 94:12; 96:7; 108:22; 116:15; 179:6, 20 listen - 123:9 lists - 11:2 literally - 91:19; 126:14 live - 10:23 lives - 205:20 LLP - 2:11 loading - 109:4 local - 148:18 located - 20:6, 24: 22:11 location - 111:6; 163:9 locations - 105:3 lock - 116:5: 125:17 locked - 105:15 locker - 85:9; 90:3 lodge - 128:21 Log - 153:21; 233:13 logically - 112:2; 134:14; 138:4 fook - 38:18; 80:20; 81:5, 15; 98:23: 190:22 looked - 73:18; 77:4; 115:4, 8; 116:11, 18; 126:14; 135:19; 200:23 looking - 67:9; 99:5, 24; 114:20; 186:5 looks - 75:12: 97:9: 99:2: 120:22; 121:10; 171:22; 172:16; 187:9, 17; 203:15; 208:21; 209:15; 210:6; 212:9; 217:16 lose - 214:9

M

loss - 214:25

Lower - 22:14

lying - 222:24

loud - 117:11: 168:10

machine - 220:25: 221:3 Main - 1:24 male - 14:21; 102:13, 20; 104:18; 106:10; 107:16

mentally - 192:17

mention - 83:10: 84:22

mentioned - 16:21; 25:4; 38:9;

230:5

MS - 28:25: 57:21: 76:19: 81:7

males - 54:12; 58:7, 12, 18-20; 59:21; 73:8; 103:21; 109:6 man - 114:22; 115:7; 127:7 management - 22:19: 145:12: 155:22; 158:17; 159:16; 171:14; 181:8; 189:23; 207:16 Management - 226:20: 228:15, 17, 25 mandated - 46:9 mandatory - 96:11 manhandling - 86:24; 89:9 manipulating - 137:7 manner - 43:13: 167:20: 168:11: 220:22; 227:15 Marcel - 2:18 March - 10:19; 157:23; 169:25; 172:12; 184:23; 185:3; 207:14; 210:9 mark - 4:8: 98:9: 153:2: 229:20 marked - 4:10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25; 5:4, 8, 11, 14, 17, 19, 22; 6:2, 5, 7, 10, 13, 16, 20: 38:17: 82:19: 98:12. 15. 18: 153:5, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21; 184:17; 190:16, 19; 202:6, 11, 16, 23: 209:24 marriage - 11:18: 231:14 married - 11:6, 8 mason - 157:7 materials - 120:6 matter - 13:14; 98:20; 126:21; 155:5; 231:15; 234:4 mayor - 50:17: 51:24: 52:2: 133:25; 134:4; 136:2, 8, 12; 155:15; 182:9, 14; 188:10; 189:9, 11, 25 Mayor - 52:4, 6; 133:21; 134:2; 136:4 mayors - 50:21; 52:3 McEachin - 52:21, 25; 53:10; 54:21, 24-25; 55:18; 56:5; 71:19; 86:6, 10, 13; 87:4, 12, 21, 25; 89;8, 11; 96;3, 25; 104:5. 20: 106:12: 118:11: 141:12; 155:10; 192:2 McEachin's - 56:5; 106:11 McHeaton - 29:25; 30:4 mean - 15:24: 44:5: 80:4: 88:4: 104:7: 124:17: 168:12: 171:6: 180:21; 206:8; 214:18 meaning - 16:3; 67:20; 77:23; 91:14: 95:7: 171:8: 210:16 means - 116:14; 129:5 mechanics - 201:12 mediation - 183:24; 189:21; 190:9 medical - 223:24 medication - 227:5 medications - 10:8, 10 meet - 44:2; 68:3; 96:13; 107:5; 142:16 meeting - 36:2, 4; 43:6; 49:15, 19; 50:2; 62:24; 70:14; 78:23; 83:9, 11; 91:17; 107:22; 123:6, 8; 124:12, 14, 22; 188:9; 189:7; 215:8; 216:16 meetings - 35:17; 45:18, 20, 24; 46:4, 6; 182:23 member - 37:16: 127:22 members - 33:17; 35:14, 16; 37:10 15:84:20:104:9: 125:11. 14: 132:3: 160:10: 172:23 memo - 46:10; 112:5, 9; 130:3, 15: 196:10: 199:21. 24 memorialized - 187:5 memory - 15:5; 202:10 mental - 122:8

91:16; 105:7; 155:20; 198:7 Mercy - 17:2, 9, 15, 19; 18:2 mess - 223:2 messages - 203:4, 12 metaphorically - 90:9 method - 169:3 metric - 170:8 MICHAEL - 1:11 mid - 18:5 might - 34:25; 46:14; 162:15; 187:19 MIKE - 1:4 mind - 20:19: 132:16: 174:25 mine - 89:20; 135:19 minuscule - 117:5 minute - 98:4: 228:3 minutes - 46:7 misconduct - 79:21: 80:24: 91:12-14; 105:21; 109:12; 110:5, 19; 111:15, 22; 127:2, 15: 163:14 missing - 75:6 misunderstanding - 161:18 Mitchell - 30:2, 9; 49:14; 52:19, 23-24; 53:4, 10; 54:22, 25; 55:14, 16; 56:4; 57:6; 71:17 MO - 105:12 modified - 64:19, 22; 65:17; 66:25; 88:22 money - 64:22; 72:10; 73:4, 7, 17-19, 25; 74:8, 13, 17, 21, 23-24; 75:6, 11, 16, 21; 76:3-5, 17, 22; 77:6, 24; 78:2; 85:24: 90:16; 91:5, 7-8, 15, 23, 25; 92; 3, 14, 21; 99; 8, 15, 20: 100:5, 19, 22: 101:8, 23: 112:25; 113:3; 125:13; 131:19; 132:4, 11; 142:13; 164:12 154:17 month - 96:8, 10; 173:10; 211:25 months - 24:3; 25:25; 27:14; 36:17; 134:24; 135:15, 18, 20; 137:12; 142:17; 144:5, 22; 145:8; 152:17; 166:16; 184:2; 189:23: 190:2 morning - 195:15 most - 18:14 mostly - 18:12: 45:19 motivated - 129:12 motor - 148:8, 10, 17: 164:17 MOUNT - 1:8 Mount - 1:17; 4:4; 7:3, 7; 18:7, 19, 25; 19:8; 22:18; 58:17; 67:18, 21; 79:19; 80:2; 85:11; 127:12; 128:12; 134:12, 20; 173:22; 176:8; 190:13; 195:11. 24: 204:11. 15: 206:18; 207:9, 11; 208:13; 211:14; 212:15; 220:24; 227:16 mouth - 79:17: 80:11: 162:16 mouths - 103:23 move - 65:13 MR - 4:8; 6:21; 9:8; 11:12; 12:7, 24: 13:17. 20: 19:3. 18: 20:10: 23:6, 22, 25; 26:15; 27:8; 29:4: 32:2, 19; 33:15; 36:12; 47:5: 81:12, 21; 82:10, 17, 23; 83:3; 90:19; 94:7; 95:11; 98:5, 9; 105:23; 109:20; 110:12; 119:15; 120:17; 121:25; 128:25: 129:8: 141:24: 150:24: 152:15. 22: 153:2: 157:12: 158:14; 160:16; 161:13, 17; 168:6; 169:16; 181:23: 188:6; 190:15; 194:9; 197:20: 214:14, 19: 221:14 223:21, 25; 228:4, 16; 229:25;

25: 82:13, 20, 25: 83:6: 98:3: 128:19: 139:21: 151:8. 19: 203:9; 227:21, 24; 228:14; 230:14 Municipal - 223:16

MURASHEA - 1:4, 19; 4:2; 230:22; 231:9; 234:21

Murashea - 6:24: 207:8. 10 must - 101:22

MV-5 - 4:13, 16, 22; 5:4, 19; 35:22; 38:22, 24; 39:2, 9, 11, 18-19; 40:12; 41:3, 23; 42:7, 14; 70:15, 24; 97:20, 22-23; 98:2, 15; 120:22, 24; 121:3, 8, 13. 19: 172:9. 13-14. 18-19. 25: 176:16: 186:11: 187:20: 217:17, 21-22; 220:21; 221:10; 232:7, 10, 12, 18;

MV-5's - 42:15; 78:24 MVP - 213:3

N

name - 6:22: 11:9: 14:16: 24:8. 12; 43:8; 53:24; 54:2; 77:21; 111:4; 163:8; 167:21; 168:20; 169:18; 200:19; 207:7; 209:9

names - 11:16; 53:18; 57:12; 61:10: 77:16

narcotic - 130:17

narcotics - 25:11; 27:2; 28:8; 30:14, 17, 23; 31:3, 6, 8, 15; 32:12; 36:22; 39:24; 40:14; 42;20; 44:19; 46:8; 48:22; 49:13, 18; 51:15, 19; 52:20; 53:14: 55:14. 23: 58:10. 15. 21; 59:17; 61:7; 63:8, 13, 25; 64:2, 10; 67:5; 72:3; 86:20; 88:15; 92:19; 95:6; 102:22; 105:5, 9; 116:23; 121:18; 122:22; 128:8; 141:18; 142:4, 13; 143:4, 19; 144:6; 158:21; 160:4. 25: 165:19: 191:23: 211:13: 212:13. 18: 213:3: 218:7, 11; 219:20; 221:22

narrative - 187:14: 207:24: 208:8

nature - 174:12, 18 Nawrocki - 7:9: 229:13, 23

NAWROCKI - 1:12

necessarily - 110:3

necessary - 11:11

need - 8:21; 10:5, 7; 83:6; 113:22; 115:2, 23; 120:13; 170:17: 182:7

needed - 59:17; 118:8; 173:13; 182:18; 227:15

needs - 94:20; 108:8; 185:7, 10 negative - 160:12, 14, 21-22; 161:21, 23: 170:24: 178:11: 198:10: 199:2: 205:6

negatively - 206:5

neighborhood - 205:20 nervous - 145:13

network - 21:22

networks - 22:19

never - 43:11; 54:8, 13-14; 58:8: 63:14: 67:20: 90:17: 119:23: 124:24: 126:15; 137:21: 160:5: 175:22:

182:21; 183:8; 188:10; 189:9; 194:16; 211:23

NEW - 1:2. 8: 231:4

new - 41:14; 55:10, 13; 155:22; 178:15

New - 1:17, 21, 24; 2:8, 13; 4:4; 7:4; 20:25; 21:10; 22:18: 103:18: 231:8

News - 153:15, 18; 233:11 news - 211:3

next - 98:10; 112:3; 125:24;

126:4: 148:21: 200:17, 19; 217:8; 232:25 nice - 221:5

nickname - 103:14 nigger - 118:18

niggers - 67:19; 72:7 nobody - 80:15: 122:25 noise - 90:2; 145:9; 150:7

non - 139:20; 140:17; 199:25; 228:10, 24

non-cooperation - 228:10, 24 normal - 9:17

normally - 63:7; 69:5; 170:15 Normally - 58:9

north - 10:23 northern - 10:23 Notary - 1:20; 4:6; 230:25;

231:7; 234:24 note - 129:21

Note - 6:7: 232:22 noted - 199:25; 222:12; 234:3

notes - 130:16 nothing - 59:6; 115:14; 117:5; 118:23: 150:5: 152:9: 173:24: 180:20, 23; 182:24; 183:2, 4;

189:10, 14, 22; 196:15 notice - 107:15; 228:8, 22 noticed - 69:12, 25

noting - 81:8 November - 128:6: 221:3 Number - 122:5; 177:21;

noticing - 91:7

207:6: 232:4 number - 77:8; 82:21; 154:25; 155:2; 207:8; 209:10

numbers - 100:13; 118:8; 124:6, 19, 21; 179:16; 222:13

numerous - 72:24: 74:7: 75:16; 99:8; 101:6; 140:24: 229:10

0

oath - 3:12; 7:12 object - 9:7, 15; 28:25; 128:20;

objected - 74:16: 75:21 24: 160:6

objection - 9:13; 76:19; 157:6 objections - 3:18; 183:23

obligated - 116:17 obligation - 151:11 obscure - 59:6; 69:19

observation - 101:9: 102:6: 103:7; 116:24; 119:18; 149:22 observe - 73:3; 86:23; 162:20;

167:2 observed - 74:11, 24; 75:3; 101:20; 102:12, 19, 24; 103:4; 104:22-24; 105:2, 17-18;

108:15; 109:3; 112:18; 113:15: 116:2: 127:23: 135:9. 11: 163:19: 167:18. 22: 169:9: 195:10

obtain - 63:21 obtained - 62:21: 211:24 obtaining - 211:22

obvious - 199:16 Obviously - 135:22 obviously - 123:10; 178:9, 23; 196:23

occasion - 74:15: 75:20, 23, 25; 76:2, 16, 21

occasions - 71:8; 72:25; 74:8; 75:16; 77:8; 99:8: 101:7 103:20; 105:2. 19; 119:2; 141:11

occupied - 166:3 occurred - 38:7: 77:17. 23:

79:7; 102:2; 104:19; 105:4; 106:11; 110:6; 111:7; 124:9; 147:16; 150:4; 164:3, 20; 165:2; 169:25; 173:6; 190:5; 198:4; 202:2; 205:6

occurrence - 112:6 October - 1:17; 231:17 OF - 1:2, 8; 231:4

offense - 139:8 offer - 25:14; 26:25; 58:10 offered - 61:14; 202:6, 11

office - 40:5, 14; 49:15; 69:15; 79:5. 8: 83:18: 86:20: 105:5. 9: 108:17: 117:3: 119:17: 122:23; 124:25; 145:16; 176:20; 182:19; 183:11; 203:19; 215:7; 216:16; 217:4,

Office - 1:16: 2:7, 12

6-8; 219:16 Officer - 7:5; 10:18; 32:15, 25; 33:6. 21. 24: 34:11. 21: 38:5: 40:18. 20. 24: 41:7: 42:11: 43:17: 50:12: 54:18: 56:9. 15. 20; 57:8; 64:5; 67:10; 72:5; 73:2; 74:16; 84:5, 25; 87:20; 91:18; 95:4; 98:17; 102:10; 108:11, 13; 110:24; 113:12; 116:25; 117:14, 17, 19, 22, 24; 118:4; 119:8; 122:4, 6, 13, 19; 126:12, 16; 127:18, 20; 128:6: 140:21: 141:17: 144:5. 23; 145;2; 146;17; 153;23; 165:24; 166:7, 15, 24; 169:19; 170:10; 171:10, 14; 195:19, 21; 203:5, 16; 228:7; 230:7 officer - 3:11, 14: 12:23: 13:2.

19, 23; 18:6; 22:24; 24:5; 26:13; 30:4, 7, 10; 33:5; 36:9, 14, 16; 37:22, 25; 38:13; 44:17; 45:4; 58:14; 63:20; 65:2, 14; 79:21; 80:24; 84:21; 92:19; 106:15, 19; 110:10; 114.4 12 16 18: 117:16: 123:19; 129:12; 131:22; 132:6, 12; 137:22; 139:2;

140:21; 143:21; 144:4; 146:5; 148:8, 13, 16, 22, 25; 149:5, 9. 13: 154:13: 163:23: 164:8: 167:20; 168:16, 18; 169:13; 173:16: 178:6, 22: 179:15, 19:

180:14: 181:19: 185:6: 191:11; 201:8; 202:25; 209:9; 215:21; 216:22; 223:19; 224:8

officer's - 163:8 officers - 24:10, 15: 26:18:

31:15, 21; 33:18; 53:14; 55:22; 56:8; 58:15, 24: 59:3. 5. 11. 14: 60:10. 12. 20. 23: 61:2-4, 8-9, 11-12, 18; 62:17; 66:23; 69:13, 16-17; 70:9, 11-12: 74:4: 78:6, 9: 79:24: 88:17; 102:11; 106:14; 108:17, 19; 109:2, 9; 116:22; 117:2; 118:2, 16; 119:11, 17, 20-21; 122:7, 9, 18; 123:23; 128:11: 131:21: 133:16: 134:8, 25; 135:5, 14, 17; 136:21; 137:12; 138:10, 19-20; 139:3, 8, 20; 140:6, 17-18, 20; 141:20-23; 144:21, 24; 145:7; 147:24; 149:2; 152:5: 155:11: 163:25: 164:4. 14: 165:7, 14: 166:10; 167:3, 9, 22, 24-25; 169:4, 6, 8, 10-11, 23; 173:22: 176:2; 177:3; 178;5, 15; 181:16; 198:16; 215:21: 216:5, 7, 9;

220:11; 222:23 Officers - 4:13, 16, 22; 5:4, 19; 98:15; 232:7. 10. 12. 18; 233:7

officers' - 109:11: 110:5 offices - 22:13 OFFICIAL - 1:9-11. 13 often - 73:6: 116:21 Olifiers - 2:18: 181:18: 219:16.

18: 221:5: 229:17 on-duty - 28:21, 24: 29:6; 55:16

once - 66:13; 68:22-25; 69:25; 74:12, 18, 22; 76:5, 12; 77:9; 92:21, 23; 102:24; 103:25; 138:24

one - 8:20; 13:17; 14:23; 29:12; 37:14; 40:5; 44:10; 45:4; 48:13; 58:19; 59:15; 60:20; 61:2: 67:17: 74:14: 75:20. 23-24: 76:2: 82:6: 85:7. 9: 89:25; 90:2, 7, 10; 101:17; 102:23; 104:15; 106:15; 107:19; 108:15; 109:19; 111:9; 123:13; 131:21; 136:10; 151:24; 154:25; 161:24; 163:18; 175:11; 176:13; 178:10; 180:7; 182:6; 185:4: 186:13: 188:14: 198:17; 199:4; 200:4; 203:20, 25; 205:24; 209:25; 212:4, 15, 19; 213:19; 214:20; 215:18; 225:25: 226:3: 229:18

One - 66:5 one-page - 212:4 ones - 22:16: 109:3 operating - 159:5 opinion - 35:20, 24; 37:18;

40:18; 43:10; 45:16; 58:23; 60:11, 13, 24; 61:12; 89:15; 96:16; 161:14, 16 opinions - 78:25; 79:6

opportunities - 154:12; 214:4, 10 Opportunity - 207:21 opportunity - 8:4; 9:15; 25:13,

15; 26:24; 59:2, 4; 61:13; 63:14; 178:24; 179:10; 192:18; 193:8; 196:7; 197:6; 198:13, 19; 215:2, 14 opposed - 137:21; 165:13

option - 129:9 order - 124:5, 19; 138:8; 140:11; 170:7; 175:12; 176;19; 193:4; 217:21; 226:18

Order - 1:20 ordinances - 24:18 originally - 11:3 ostracized - 78:14; 80:6; 85:6 otherwise - 130:20; 214:11

ourself - 79:23 ourselves - 35:18; 85:9 outcome - 231:14 outside - 12:4: 66:11, 17:

70:13; 84:6, 15 over-the-counter - 10:12 Overhill - 2:7 overly - 114:6, 19

overnight - 21:13 oversee - 90:6 overseen - 149:24 overtime - 203:22; 204:2, 4, 6-7: 205:13

own - 62:16; 122:10; 150:18; 152:11; 172:18

Р

p.m - 152:24: 230:19 PAGE - 232:2 page - 172:13; 187:14; 190:23; 209:25: 212:4; 213:11; 232:25 Page - 99:4; 102:10; 110:23: 113:11; 208:11; 232:4 Page Line SHOULD - 234:6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 pages - 82:5: 199:24 paid - 204:8 paper - 189:5

paragraph - 72:5; 74:7; 90:23; 91:21: 95:3: 99:6: 100:10: 112:15; 113:10; 130:24; 134:21; 138:16; 149:13; 158:23

Paragraph - 67:15; 72:24; 74:14: 75:19: 84:3: 90:12: 91:2; 97:9; 99:5, 12, 25; 100:3, 16; 102:9; 104:17; 112:25; 116:20; 124:9; 128:5; 157:17, 24; 158:24; 167:11; 216:11

paragraphs - 99:19 Paragraphs - 67:10, 12; 75:13, 15: 110:25: 201:24

pardon - 18:22; 23:4; 30:16; 93:21

part - 13:3, 9, 11; 18:11; 34:7; 36:11; 46:3; 50:7; 56:24; 57:8; 61:20, 22; 62:2, 23; 79:15; 84:21; 88:10; 94:17, 21; 95:6; 96:8; 111:14, 21; 129:18, 22; 135;12; 138:7; 146:2; 153:24; 155:5; 157:7; 170:15; 180:7;

203:20: 210:16: 212:21 part-time - 18:11 partially - 42:2; 65:7; 229:2 participants - 213:23 particular - 15:9; 34:9; 37:22; 46:16; 48:12, 16; 66:8;

112:14; 126:3; 134:17; 149:9; 162:16; 165:20; 168:16; 178:19; 179:4; 211:18; 217:2 particularly - 173:9

parties - 3:8; 230:7; 231:13 partner - 32:8, 10, 13; 40:9; 41:14: 42:19, 22-23, 25; 43:18, 25: 44:3, 10: 48:7

partnered - 32:23; 41:8, 25 partners - 31:20; 32:5, 14, 22; 33:12; 35:13; 48:6; 54:3; 101:12

partnership - 40:21 party - 16:3; 190:12; 192:21; 204:16: 226:19

pass - 90:9

passed - 154:23: 155:2, 7, 10 past - 122:9; 124:24; 140:23; 141:10; 159:14; 198:18, 24; 205:19 21

path - 62:20

patrol - 23:16; 24:4; 25:2, 23; 26:2, 8, 11, 19; 27:24; 28:3, 7, 10; 35:8; 43:15; 46:9, 21; 47:7, 10; 48:7, 10, 12, 21; 51:7, 13; 104:8; 130:25; 142:20 22: 144:14: 148:18: 159:5: 162:2: 163:3: 178:12: 216:21: 217:5: 219:19

patrolling - 86:22

Patterson - 32:13, 16; 33:6, 9, 13; 34:3; 35:13; 39:22; 40:22; 41:8: 45:17: 57:18: 87:7: 89:15; 106:20; 107:12; 108:11, 13, 18; 144:7

PAUL - 1:12: 2:13 Paul - 7:5

pay - 148:25; 164:12; 224:10, 14. 22 payable - 19:14

paying - 201:7, 12 payment - 225:2 PBA - 151:6, 10, 16, 18; 152:2, 20; 159;12; 160:10; 172:20, 23; 176:13; 200:21

PCP - 125:5, 10: 130:6: 212:15: PDA - 21:25

Pelham - 20:6 penalty - 149:3

people - 21:25; 45:24; 60:18; 61-25: 64:18: 68:4: 69:10:

79:11; 80:14, 19; 85:4, 19; 86:15; 88:17; 89:25; 90:8; 95:21; 100:13; 103:12, 14; 109:5: 113:22, 25: 114:2, 7, 10, 20; 115;4, 6, 12, 25; 116:4, 10; 118:17, 23; 119:5; 130:8; 133:8, 14; 134:15; 136:6, 13; 137:9; 140:10; 141:8; 145:20; 154:23; 155:4; 156:3; 161:6; 162:11; 166:13; 167:7; 175:13; 177:6; 203:21; 206;7; 212;17, 20; 220:20 People - 85:13 people's - 104:3, 6; 222:16 peoples' - 175:9 per - 229:7 perfectly - 230:17 Performance - 5:13; 190:18; 232:15: 233:14 performance - 187:19; 189:16; 197:22; 209:14; 210:22, 25; 214:5, 14, 21 perhaps - 12:25; 15:7; 43:3, 21: 60:3: 92:18: 164:6: 169:22: 198:21: 206:3: 208:25: 211:3 period - 38:8; 132:24; 184:23; 192:3; 210:20; 211:25 perks - 123:13 person - 14:17: 66:18: 75:5: 91:9; 127:9; 129:5, 15; 136:10; 162:13, 15, 19; 166:23; 168:12; 185:19; 186:25 personal - 154:4, 6; 174:13; 221:20, 25; 222:5 Personal - 190:18: 233:14 personalities - 45:22 personally - 104:22; 159:22; 161:2 Personnel - 5:13; 232:15 personnel - 175:4; 203:20 persuade - 104:15 persuading - 222:25 pertain - 203:13; 210:11; pertaining - 40:18, 23; 173:23; 183:4; 185:22; 213:17 pertains - 210:21 phone - 60:8; 125:24; 126:5; 145:15; 174:3; 190:7; 193:12, 22; 194:2, 4, 6, 8, 12-13, 18, 22: 195:17, 23: 196:3: 207:8: 219:4: 221:18, 20; 222:2, 8, 10. 13-15. 17: 229:22 phones - 21:25; 221:23; 222:5 Photocopy - 6:19; 233:5 photocopy - 199:20; 208:24 Photograph - 233:5 photograph - 6:19 phrase - 143:15 physical - 195:5 pick - 62:14; 70:7, 12; 84:5; 121:4 pictures - 209:5 place - 1:20; 67:20; 207:9 placed - 48:9; 64:19; 77:6; 157:18: 196:11 Plains - 1:24 plaintiff - 13:21; 14:18; 16:3 Plaintiff - 1:5, 19; 2:6 plan - 36:23; 46:12; 227:2, 6 planner - 88:8 planning - 48:15 play - 200:24 player - 88:9 PLLC - 2:6 PO - 166:6, 22: 213:4 pocket - 73:5, 19

point - 8:13; 19:21; 26:19, 21;

30:19; 31:19; 49:14; 50:25;

51:23; 52:24; 53:21, 23; 54:18; 57:17-19; 59:19: 60:16; 63:4 21 24:64:10 20:70:5. 14: 74:6: 75:2: 84:23: 97:5; 137:24; 139:10; 151:24; 181:20; 183:16; 185:17; 206:2; 224:3, 18-19; 229:4 pointed - 131:3; 175:21 points - 142:24: 224:13 noie - 127:7: 142:11 Police - 18:19; 19:2; 51:20; 58:17: 79:20: 80:2: 85:13: 103:15: 127:12: 134:13. 20: 139:12: 140:13: 166:7: 173:22: 176:8: 190:14: 195:11, 25; 206:18; 207:9, 12; 208:14; 220:24; 227:16 police - 12:22, 25; 13:19, 22; 18:6; 22:22, 24-25; 23:8, 11, 15; 24:5, 10, 20; 31:14, 21; 33:18; 50:15, 24; 51:22; 55:3; 58:3, 13; 65:14; 77:19; 85:18; 112:2; 128:11; 133:6, 22; 134:19; 135:5; 136:5, 7, 14, 16-17, 19, 21, 23; 137:4; 140:23; 141:6; 146:4, 22; 150:6 11: 151:21: 165:7. 9: 173:22: 175:5: 178:6, 15, 22; 179:15, 19; 181:3, 9, 19; 185:6; 187:25; 188:12, 19; 191:10; 192:24; 194:12, 14; 200:10, 21; 201:3, 13, 17; 202;7, 11, 14, 17, 25; 206:16; 209;6; 223;19; 224;8 polite - 159:24 political - 145:11, 15: 146:20 politically - 146:23 poor - 197:24 Port - 19:14: 21:17 posed - 8:24: 122:6 position - 14:9: 24:6, 22, 24: 25:4; 55:12; 133:8; 141:17; 159:17; 204:18; 218:15 positive - 129:21: 199:12 possesses - 146:21 possible - 218:23; 226:2 Post - 2:7, 12 power - 85:17; 90:6; 123:17; 127:6, 11; 133:4, 16; 134:6, 14; 139:5; 150:8; 176:12; 178:25: 198:14: 199:15: 219:11 powers - 65:3 precise - 88:13 predated - 42:15 predecessor - 96:2; 118:10 predicament - 216:3 predominantly - 58:12, 16 preferential - 177:2 prepare - 227:9 preparing - 145:3 presence - 24:20; 68:13; 78:6; 118:21; 119:2; 131:11 present - 63:14; 93:2; 102:4; 126:13; 131:7; 180:18; 219:18, 22 presented - 61:13; 213:5 president - 151:17; 152:20; 200:21 pressure - 129:9: 192:16: 225:13 pretty - 58:19; 130:10 previous - 101:14: 165:22: 186:10; 189:16; 191:24 priority - 201:8, 20: 206:9 prisoner - 40:10: 103:5 prisoners - 102:14, 21; 104:18; 106:10; 107:16 privacy - 207:6 privilege - 151:20: 176:11

privileged - 123:14; 151:9

privileges - 69:18

privy - 136:13; 145:14, 18; probation - 24:13: 138:23 problem - 35:14, 16, 21; 59:20; 64:12; 80:9, 18; 85:5; 159:23; 160:6: 161:3: 200:14: 211:23 problems - 80:15 procedure - 170:15: 226:9 proceeded - 198:22 proceeding - 12:21; 16:2 proceedings - 15:25; 150:21 proceeds - 124:4, 18; 130:6 process - 21:11; 22:4; 182:23; 190:10: 225:16 processing - 21:9 produce - 96:5; 217:21 produced - 113:7 production - 82:8 productive - 35:15; 49:7; 96:21; 118:4; 140:22; 141:2, 5, 7; 142:23; 220:6, 10 productivity - 60:3; 141:9; 142:17: 192:11; 199:3; 211:21, 24 profanity - 117:10; 118:12; 119:21; 168:10, 23; 183:12 professional - 185:8; 222:6 professionals - 174:12 program - 178:14 programming - 17:12 progress - 220:13 promote - 135:5; 138:18; 139:19; 140:17 promoted - 34:5; 36:17; 125:21; 138:2, 25; 141:20, 22; 142:9, 18; 151:24; 155:13, 16, 21, 23; 156:17; 165:15, 21; 166:16; 177:8 promotion - 139:10; 142:4, 7-8, 11; 154:11; 214:10 promotions - 153:25: 154:22: 157:9 properly - 201:11; 219:2 prosecutions - 13:5 prospective - 78:24; 89:4 protect - 195:14 protected - 137:20; 146:4; 198:20 protocol - 189:12 proven - 206:17 provided - 13:13; 81:11, 14; 161:9; 191:3; 199:19; 228:8 providing - 82:3. 7 Public - 1:20; 4:6; 230:25; 231:7; 234:24 publicized - 145:23 pull - 182:23; 213:7; 222:3 pulled - 146:17, 23; 215:7 punch - 103:5 punched - 162:7 punching - 64:23; 86:19; 102:15, 20; 104:17; 106:9, 25; 107:15; 108:2 punished - 80:7 punishment - 36:11; 89:7 purchase - 165:23, 25 purpose - 39:20: 40:16 purposes - 7:15 purse - 74:25; 92:4; 101:3 pursuant - 1:19 pursuit - 162:2 push - 118:6: 124:23 pushed - 119:19 put - 73:22; 74:13, 17; 75:21; 76:3, 5, 18; 79:11; 92:22; 107:15; 113:4; 139:7; 189:5; 199:3: 201:16: 204:19:

205:24: 206:15: 221:5

putting - 78:2; 91:15; 109:5

43:15, 19: 47:12: 48:21

50:22: 51:12, 18: 52:9, 17:

122:10 71:19; 78:23; 79:10; 144:13 reassignment - 35:11; 48:24; 51:5: 130:25; 214:10 Q rebate - 21:9 rebates - 21:11 qualified - 138:19; 139:20; Receipt - 6:13; 233:3 140:17 receive - 17:3; 65:17; 66:25; quality - 24:16; 63:9; 185:10; 135:16; 165:11; 215:17; 192:10; 197:23; 211:14 224:14 quantity - 185:10 received - 17:6: 61:23: 88:22: auestion's - 9:5 89:7; 143:22; 144:25; 145:15; auestioned - 79:8 146:15, 148:11; 149:2; 165:12; 175:23; 177:12; questions - 7:12; 8:2; 46:23; 141:9; 230:11 178:17; 180:5; 182:20; 183:5; 190:7; 191:13; 215:25; 222:9; quick - 81:5 224:2, 6, 10; 228:22; 229:10 quickly - 175:19 receiving - 226:21 quit - 129:8, 10 recently - 15:15; 54:25; 55:3; 106:23; 107:13; 155:22; quite - 56:23: 114:15: 208:4 quoted - 71:2 177:9; 224:6 recess - 98:6; 152:23 R recognize - 120:19; 171:20; 206:25; 210:5; 212:8; 217:14 race - 34:12: 67:5: 131:4, 15: recollection - 82:3 7:83:8 133:3, 7, 10; 134:16; 138:6; recommended - 225:25 156:19 record - 6:23; 7:2; 9:9, 11; racial - 34:20; 95:7, 16; 112:17; 81:4, 8, 13-14; 82:2; 97:7, 18; 208:14, 16 112:6, 21; 113:6; 121:25; racially - 181:6 122:3; 130:3; 152:22; 158:2; racism - 85:16 170:20: 193:22: 194:2, 6; 209:7; 222:8; 229:25; 230:4; racist - 59:13: 60:17, 22: 66:21; 231:11 67:17: 69:23: 112:12: 113:12: recorded - 193:14, 16, 20; 115:21; 123:18 194;4, 13, 15, 17-18, 22-23; raise - 117:18: 141:9 195:7, 24 ran - 61:7; 64:15; 88:12; records - 77:20; 112:10; 113:2; 132:22; 138:13 130:16, 20; 191:16; 196:2; random - 48:9 205:24; 209:18 randomly - 46:12 recover - 66:11; 73:4; 125:16; rate - 142:12 126:11; 226:25; 227:15 rates - 80:21 recovered - 131:17: 213:22 rather - 63:6, 11 recovery - 225:18 RAYNOR - 1:8 recruit - 60:4; 62:5; 65:5 Raynor - 133:25; 134:5; recruits - 178:15 150:12, 14: 177:5: 183:3, 6: rectify - 189:23 189:24: 227:20 refer - 100:17 Raynor's - 183:11 reference - 80:19; 99:18; RD - 19:13; 21:16, 18 124:8; 126:3; 201:23 reaction - 77:3 referenced - 15:12; 187:21 READ - 234:6, 8, 10, 12, 14, references - 186:24 16, 18 referred - 99:19; 154:3 reading - 90:22; 91:19; 221:9 referring - 51:6; 84:2; 86:18; ready - 226:10 91:24; 92:2; 105:8; 109:20; real - 85:20 138:10; 149:6; 154:7; 188:20; realistic - 96:14 229:5, 18 realized - 61:18; 73:21, 25; refers - 100:6, 20 74:15: 75:20: 76:5: 77:4: reflected - 209:19 92:21: 102:25: 109:25: refrained - 65:9 192:23: 226:6 refresh - 15:5: 202:10 really - 43:9; 46:18; 47:18; regarded - 157:4 48:4, 8; 68:7; 87:18; 95:24; regarding - 41:24; 66:19; 102:8: 103:16: 104:25: 105:16; 108:4; 114:9; 116:12, 67:13; 120:24; 130:5; 132:10; 157:15; 164:16; 167:12; 18; 117:14, 18, 22; 118:2; 173:2: 174:20: 177:17: 178:3: 123:22, 24; 126:23; 131:23; 134:11, 135:8, 24; 136:5, 12; 187:25: 200:2: 209:13 137:10; 138:3; 147:17; regardless - 147:23 150:17; 160:5, 7; 161:22; regime - 88:10, 17, 19; 129:23; 163:11, 24; 179:16; 183:14; 133:15, 19-20; 137:25; 138:7. 184:11 9: 154:3 reason - 35:10; 64:11; 65:22; Regional - 22:14 88:6; 101:16; 201:6; 205:2, registered - 125:7 12: 215:20: 218:9: 220:8 regular - 48:7 REASON - 234:7, 9, 11, 13, regulations - 79:19; 80:25; 15, 17, 19 90:5: 180:19 reasons - 44:10; 90:10; Reimbursement - 204.13 101:17; 109:19; 128:14; relate - 100:4; 217:10 198:17 related - 213:24: 231:13 reassign - 36:6 relations - 24:10 reassigned - 28:9: 36:3, 6-7. relationship - 12:2: 65:23; 10: 37:24: 38:15: 40:19:

66:15: 68:7: 146:12: 154:19:

160:5; 185:8: 203:17

relied - 171:14 reluctant - 179:23 rely - 195:11 remained - 28:19 remark - 204:17 remarks - 95:8, 16; 116:22 remember - 14:2, 10, 19-20, 24; 15:2, 8-9; 16:5, 20; 18:3; 20:18; 21:6; 26:10, 16-17, 20; 29:12, 15; 30:12; 31:4, 9, 13, 17, 19; 33:16, 23; 34:6; 38:4, 9: 42:12. 17: 43:4. 8. 10. 22: 46:23: 47:18: 49:17: 50:16, 19, 22; 52:17; 54:8; 56:13-15; 61:10; 69:4; 71:5; 75:3; 76:10; 77:18, 20; 78:10; 79:4; 81:20; 93:9; 97:20-22, 25; 103:6; 110:16, 21-22; 112:8, 23; 113:5, 9; 119:3; 120:9-11; 121:24; 127:17; 128:4; 130:7, 22-23; 133:23; 140:9; 148:5; 149:7; 163:11; 165:17, 23; 166:20; 167:21; 168:4, 20-21; 169:21; 176:20; 178:19; 184:9: 186:15: 187:23; 188:16; 197:13; 200:4; 202:8, 12-13; 205:16-18, 21 remind - 151:9 reminded - 9:22 repeat - 7:19; 154:8; 228:19 repeated - 85:17; 141:11 repeatedly - 75:9; 86:15; 102:11, 14; 108:4 rephrase - 7:14; 8:6, 10; 19:18 replaced - 86:13 replied - 72:9 Report - 4:13, 16, 22: 5:4, 19: 98:15; 110:12; 153:9; 232:7, 10, 12, 18; 233:7, 9 report - 40:16: 42:8: 78:11: 79:20; 80:23; 84:16; 85:22; 87:3; 91:9, 11; 93:13, 16, 23; 94:5; 97:3; 105:20; 106:2, 12; 109:12, 15, 22-23; 110:5, 7, 10-11, 18; 111:16; 126:24; 127:14, 25; 128:3; 132:9; 136:25: 163:13; 166:5, 23 reported - 29:10; 52:12; 53:7; 15; 83:23; 93:17, 19; 105:25; 106:7, 15: 109:22; 134:9; 182:4; 206:4; 207:15; 215:22 Reporter - 1:25; 231:7 reporter - 9:21 REPORTER - 231:22 reporting - 29:16 REPORTING - 1:23 reports - 109:11; 130:8, 21; 136:8, 24; 137:7 represent - 7:7; 81:12; 208:13; representatives - 172:21 represents - 95:19; 176:13; 207:19; 208:7; 210:12 reprimanded - 148:16 reputation - 103;8, 16: 159:2: 167:12 request - 95:14: 121:17: 217:19, 23; 226:11, 13 requested - 28:2, 8; 40:5, 13; 59:16: 222:8 requesting - 95:5 required - 172:17 rescinded - 139:4, 11, 24: 140:3 research - 62:16; 199:10 reserved - 3:19 residence - 207:9 resident - 64:21 residents - 128:12 resolve - 197:7

relationships - 154:4, 6

resolving - 22:4 resource - 173:21: 180:25 resourceful - 118:8 resources - 181:5, 13; 182:5; 185:19; 186:25; 192:25; 193:2: 199:10: 219:9: 222:4 respect - 36:19: 87:25: 100:16: 104:16: 150:18: 225:24 respectful - 43:12 respective - 3:8 respectively - 221:7 respond - 219:25 responded - 198:5 responding - 171:9; 217:19 response - 80:22; 82:9, 15-16; 108:10; 115:10; 116:19; 127:13; 141:15; 189:16; 221:7 responsibilities - 26:13 responsibility - 65:3; 203:21 responsible - 22:16; 42:10 rest - 223:7 result - 35:22; 38:2; 158:20; 171:8; 175:14, 17, 24; 176:22; 198:14; 205:5; 214:13, 16; 215:4, 16-17; 216:2 results - 80:5; 110:3 resume - 230:9 resumed - 98:7: 152:24 resurrected - 137:24 retain - 124:4 retaliate - 198:13; 205:3; 215:15; 219:13 retaliated - 148:24: 171:13: 205:9 retaliating - 219:10 retaliation - 134:14; 172:11; 191:10; 199:14; 208:20; 215:5 retaliatory - 147:18: 174:18, 21 retired - 43:8; 54:2; 55:2; 79:3 return - 40:5; 125:11 returned - 54:10, 16; 219:3; 222:14, 17 rewarded - 138:8 RICHARD - 1:10 risk - 122:7; 123:5; 206:11 RMP - 200:9 RMP's - 200:8; 201:4, 6, 10 Road - 2:7 ROBERT - 1:12 Rochelle - 20:25: 21:10: 22:18 rocking - 213:5 role - 203:25 room - 9:25; 85:9; 90:3; 228:6 Roosevelt - 1:16: 4:3: 7:3 rotates - 48:2 rotating - 47:23; 196:19 rough - 103:21; 105:11, 13 route - 63:5 routine - 195:18 routinely - 112:12, 16 rule - 9:17; 149:23; 150:8 rules - 8:20; 79:19; 80:25; 90:5; run - 134:14: 136:5, 17 running - 88:14 runs - 136:7, 14 rushina - 63:10 régime - 68:11 S

safe - 70:19: 101:10: 102:4:

118:19; 189:25; 194:17;

safety - 39:24: 40:24: 122:6:

123:5; 201:8, 20

salary - 223:23

218:18

sales - 20:8, 13; 21:23; 124:4, 18; 130:6 sat - 43:6; 70:17; 96:14; 181:9 satisfaction - 184:4, 6, 12-13, 15; 189:18 satisfactory - 185:9, 11-13; 191:6; 197:23 saw - 73:19; 75:4, 10; 76:17, 22, 25; 84:19; 89:17; 91:6; 106:24; 108:2; 111:25; 116:10; 121:16; 159:23; 161:23; 163:19; 168:16; 181:11 scared - 85:4; 111:24; 132:15, Scarsdale - 2:8 scene - 164:4; 166:9 schedule - 48:2; 182:9 schedules - 46:11 school - 16:11, 13, 16-17; 18:9; 19:20; 22:17; 129:20; 173:13, 19, 23 schools - 17:4 science - 17:13 score - 155:6 Scott - 155:10: 179:5 screaming - 114:7, 24 screen - 208:24 Screen - 6:16: 233:4 screens - 209:20 sealing - 3:8 Sean - 218:13 search - 66;5, 14; 68:4; 69:6; 70:9; 72:21, 25; 73:12, 15; 74:5; 92:16, 20; 111:10; 120:3, 14; 131:17, 24 seat - 105:10 seated - 8:19 second - 8:13; 27:12, 16, 18; 47:6; 51:8, 16; 52:10; 53:7; 54:4-6; 55:6; 57:2; 71:10; 226:2, 12 secret - 109:7 section - 113:24 sectors - 48:10 secure - 44:25 see - 21:5: 73:4: 74:9: 75:17: 79:22: 91:25: 99:9. 15: 108:22; 113:13; 144:11; 163:10; 170:16; 181:16; 187:10; 205:12; 206:14; 212:22; 220:23 seeina - 116:13 seek - 192:24 sees - 129:14 sell - 125:5, 10, 20 send - 203:24 sending - 165:18, 23; 175:17; 176:22; 215:9 senior - 60:12: 62:17 sense - 72:7; 168:13; 174:22; 192:9 sent - 121:21; 171:11, 23; 172:3; 175:8, 12, 16; 177:5; 178:24; 198:6; 229:16 sentence - 187:2 separate - 72:16; 222:5 separated - 32:21 September - 14:14: 28:11, 17, 22; 190:3; 223:13; 224:11, 15 SERGEANT - 1:12 sergeant - 29:10; 30:6, 9; 40:19: 52:11. 19. 22: 53:25: 55:6, 14; 79:3; 102:3, 22; 138:2: 151:21, 23: 160:20: 161:20: 165:22: 166:17: 178:21: 179:6; 184:9; 194:16: 227:2.4

Sergeant - 7:8; 25:10, 29:18,

24-25: 30:3: 40:2: 42:4: 49:12.

14; 52:14, 18, 21, 23-25; 53:2,

9-10; 54:22, 24-25; 55:7, 15, 18, 24; 56:4; 58:11, 13-14; 59:12, 24-25; 60:5, 16-17, 21; 61:6, 14; 62:7, 25; 63:24; 66:3, 9, 16, 20; 67:6, 13, 16; 68:6, 8, 20; 69:12; 70:2; 71:17, 20, 23; 72:6; 73:10; 75:3: 76:17: 83:9. 13-14. 16: 84:4; 85:22; 86:6, 10, 12, 14; 87:4, 12, 20, 24; 88:9, 15; 89:8, 11-12; 90:14, 17, 20; 91:2, 7, 11, 16, 21; 92:6, 11, 24-25; 93:3, 10, 14, 20, 24; 94:4, 9, 12; 95:4, 15; 96:3, 25; 97:4, 14; 99:13; 100:4, 8, 11, 18, 20-21, 24; 101:2, 10, 15, 20: 102:4, 16, 21: 104:2, 5, 20: 105:25: 106:2. 4. 7. 11-12: 108:6; 109:13; 110:7, 16, 20; 111:14, 20-21; 112:15; 113:11; 114:12, 18, 25; 115:13; 116:20; 118:10, 15; 119:13; 121:23; 122:21; 123:6; 124:3, 14, 20; 125:15, 25; 126:20; 128:8; 133:9, 17-18: 135:18: 137:16: 141:12: 143:12: 152:7: 155:9. 13; 157:15, 21; 158:19, 24; 159:9; 160:3, 9, 12-13, 24; 161:5; 162:4, 10, 20; 163:5; 164:17; 167:15; 174:17; 177:12, 22; 178:8; 179:3, 5, 7, 21; 180;17; 184;24; 188;25; 189:4: 190:8: 191:8: 192:2, 4: 193:10, 15: 194:10, 19, 25: 195:16, 21-22; 196:13; 197:10; 198:4, 23; 199:25; 200:6; 205:19, 21, 23, 207:16; 214:17, 19; 215:16; 217:11; 218:8, 12, 14; 219:20; 220:4; 221:6; 222:17; 223:6; 227:17 sergeants - 29:15, 21; 31:10; 46:23; 47:16; 53:6, 18; 155:7, 20 series - 7:11; 226:17 serious - 132:16 serve - 27:11: 140:7 served - 28:4, 7: 43:24; 137:12 Service - 224:9 service - 154:22: 215:24 SERVICE - 1:23 serving - 134:23 set - 66:8; 132:17; 173:2; 182:13; 188:3, 9; 189:7; 231:10, 17 settled - 15:13-15, 17 seven - 148:25 several - 103:20; 105:2, 18; 144:14; 164:21; 165:2 severe - 122:8 sexes - 11:20 Sexton - 155:9; 194:20 shall - 207:11 share - 45:25: 147:5 shared - 45:15: 96:15: 147:7 sharing - 96:17 shed - 176:24 SHEET - 234:2 shield - 63:22; 96:20; 134:23; 135:18, 22-23; 137:14, 25 143:23; 144:17, 25; 146:15; 148:2: 150:19: 152:16: 211:23. 25 shields - 135:16; 136:21; 145:8 shift - 200:14 shifts - 47:23 shit - 67:19-21: 119:5; 126:15 shooting - 21:24: 22:3 short - 24:11; 53:9; 132:5 Shorthand - 231:7 SHORTHAND - 231:22

shortly - 42:20: 43:14: 50:9:

97:17: 140:11: 177:19

shot - 208:25 Shot - 6:16; 233:4 shouting - 114:7; 167:18 show - 38:16; 81:3; 98:18; 130:14: 184:17: 202:22: 206:14; 209:23; 211:2; 217:9 showed - 126:19; 200:5; showing - 114:25; 142:21; 171:17; 199:17; 206:20 shows - 199:4: 213:17 shuffled - 175:19 shuffling - 175:10 shut - 79:17; 80:11 sick - 157:18: 158:11: 169:25: 170:3, 7, 20, 25; 172:10; 173:4; 174:2, 9, 15-16, 24; 175:3-5; 176:3, 17; 177:17; 185:23; 186:12; 187:20; 200:6, 25; 201:15; 204:23; 205:2, 4, 11, 14, 17; 206:4, 7, 10, 15 sickness - 206:12 side - 48:14: 133:12: 146:18. 24; 176:12 sign - 179:24; 180:3, 5 signature - 38;23; 208:11 signed - 3:10, 13; 180:6 significance - 210:4, 24; 211:9; 212:10; 213:15 Significant - 153:8; 233:9 signifies - 211:20 signing - 74:2 similar - 31:11; 46:22; 144:4; 164:3 single - 11:7 singled - 89:23 sitting - 219:17 situation - 45:4; 65:12; 132:20; 137:22: 150:19; 164:3; 165:14: 190:12: 201:19 six - 57:13 skin - 131:4: 147:23 skinned - 150:17 slap - 103:4 slapping - 86:18; 102:15, 20; 104:17; 106:9; 107:16; 116:8 sleeping - 175:6 slip - 173:11 slipped - 28:11: 226:5 slow - 7:14 smart - 21:25 so-called - 141:7 sold - 125:12: 126:2. 6 solutions - 22:16 someone - 21:3; 49:4, 6, 9; 87:6, 10; 89:21; 93:13; 102:25; 110:14; 121:23; 162:2, 12; 164:2; 169:2; 183:5; 189:12; 191:14; 200:13; 205:4, 7; 206:3, 11; 222:11 someplace - 12:13 sometime - 15:21; 25:16; 27:6; 28:5: 71:14, 21 sometimes - 37:7; 44:20; 45:6, 18; 46:11; 122:25; 154:11; 206:13 somewhat - 36:10; 142:23 somewhere - 66:12; 111:8, 13; 193:4 son - 11:21, 23; 138:23, 25; 139:6.15 soon - 144:18 sorry - 20:10: 21:8: 54:24: 90:25; 108:18; 115:6; 138:22; 148:9; 157:21; 163:6; 184:19; 200:10:228:14 sound - 9:25: 18:20 sounds - 22:21; 63:17; 93:17

125:4; 162:7, 21, 23; 164:5;

south - 48:14 SOUTHERN - 1:2 speaking - 37:21; 38:12, 14; 81:23; 103:11, 24; 105:10; 114:9; 115:25; 117:15; 122:21; 169:4; 194:19; 198:16 speaks - 167:23 special - 154:18 specialization - 17:10, 15 specific - 24:19 specifically - 47:19; 50:21 speed - 48:5 spell - 203:8 spending - 152:17 spoken - 169:8, 12 spot - 79:12 Square - 1:16: 4:4: 7:3 ss - 231:4 SSD - 191:14 stability - 122:8 stalls - 113:23: 116:7 stamp - 81:16: 82:18, 21 stamped - 81:9; 120:18; 171:18; 184:18; 185:25; 190:24: 199:18: 206:21 208:2; 211:6; 212:5; 213:12 stand - 150:6 stands - 127:9 start - 17:25; 18:23; 19:5; 194:9 started - 18:18; 22:22; 47:7; 114:7, 20, 23-24; 116:6; 129:20; 156:9, 13, 16; 163:2, 21, 24; 175:9 State - 1:20: 151:5: 231:8 STATE - 231:4 state - 6:22, 25; 89:19 statement - 208:8 states - 19:22, 25; 218:21 STATES - 1:2 stating - 4:2 status - 28:20; 225:23 stay - 146:25 stayed - 227:7 steady - 47:25; 48:3; 196:18 steal - 85:23 stealing - 90:15; 91:4, 23; 99:14; 104:3 Stefano - 29:25; 30:6; 40:2, 19; 42:4; 49:12; 52:14; 53:9; 55:7, 25; 71:16 stepped - 125:24 steps - 63:7 still - 30:21; 48:2; 50:6, 10; 53:20; 57:10; 59:13; 88:15; 109:21; 137:18; 143:22; 154:25; 155:3; 191:6; 196:2, 15; 218;6; 220;8; 225;14 STIPULATED - 3:6, 17 stocking - 21:13 stole - 132:11 stood - 191:11 stop - 94:21; 108:8; 114:23 stopped - 126:9; 227:13 stopping - 211:15 store - 20:4 stories - 181:15 straight - 80:3 street - 10:21: 180:25 Street - 1:24: 111:9, 12 streets - 86:21; 103:9, 21; 105:13 strength - 35:19: 37:13 stress - 225:14: 227:10 strong - 85:2: 160:5 struck - 166:8 stuck - 95:2 student - 218:16

stuff - 20:13; 104:12; 120:7; 132:15 stupid - 168:25 submissive - 126:17 submit - 203:22-24; 217:17 submitted - 172:24; 173:11; 180:12; 182:16, 18; 186:4, 17, 19; 188:15; 208:4, 22; 210:7; 220:21; 221:7; 226:13 subordinate - 109:23; 167:17; 168:8; 197:4 subordinates - 48:3: 159:3 15, 19; 167:14; 176:14 Subscribed - 230:23; 234:22 subsequent - 121:16; 125:8; 177:16; 180:24; 190:5; 196:10; 215:8; 226:4 subsequently - 34:4: 55:15: 56:3; 57:5; 61:15; 79:7; 89:10; 131:20: 150:4: 166:15: 171:13; 175:8; 204:21; 218:2; 227:12 substance - 72:7, 9; 131:2; 151:12; 178:7 sued - 164:11 suffer - 170:23 suffering - 122:14 suggested - 45:23 suit - 150:23, 25 Suite - 1:24: 2:7 suited - 36:5 summary - 179:17 Summons - 98:12, 19, 24; 233:6 summons - 185:5 superior - 111:17: 114:16: 118:24; 127:15, 21; 168:11; 173:10, 16; 216:19, 21 superiors - 171:12 supervise - 199:5 supervised - 196:17 supervising - 181:8 supervision - 63:23; 71:15; 86:6; 143:13 supervisor - 35:23: 37:19: 39:10; 41:22; 42:3, 23; 43:7; 48:16; 49:13; 52:20, 22; 55:6, 9, 11, 15; 71:24; 72:2; 83:12, 23; 87:16; 95:18; 104:2; 106:16; 108:23; 109:24; 110:11 13: 115:19: 116:12: 127:5; 145:12; 159:13, 25; 168:12; 171:24; 173:15; 176:6; 177:2, 19; 179:23; 184:24; 189:3; 192:5, 8; 197:2, 8; 199:6, 8; 204:25; 207:14; 215:24; 218:12; 219:19 supervisors - 35:25; 37:19; 45:19; 46:24; 47:14, 24; 48:2; 49:22, 25; 50:2; 63:3; 87:9; 115:15; 132:4; 137:17 138:12: 156:11: 165:17: 166:9, 18; 175:21; 176:4, 10. 14, 17; 178:18; 196:19; 198:20; 203:25 supplemented - 207:24 support - 45:10; 132:21; 139:17: 208:5 supposed - 221:24 Supreme - 151:5 surgery - 225:25; 226:2. 11-12. 23-24; 227:8, 11, 13 surprise - 147:16

surrounding - 159:9: 217:21

suspect - 39:23; 55:17; 66:9:

74:25; 86:24; 92:13; 93:5, 7

12, 19; 99:21; 100:7; 101:4.

22; 110:25; 111:4; 112:7:

surveillance - 36:24; 37:6;

46:15

study - 227:7

218:13: 226:5 suspect's - 90:16; 91:4, 23; 99:15 suspects - 37:8; 45:2, 7; 73:2; 77:17, 21; 85:24; 86:7, 10; 89:9; 100:5, 19, 22; 101:24; 103:10; 109:5; 125:16; 126:10. 12: 209:8. 10: 210:13 suspend - 230:8 suspending - 148:24 sustain - 214:25 swallowed - 39:23 Sweeney - 7:6 SWEENEY - 2:13; 4:8; 6:21; 9:8; 11:12; 12:7, 24; 13:17, 20; 19:3, 18; 20:10; 23:6, 22, 25; 25;2; 26;15; 27;8; 29;4; 30:21; 32:2, 19; 33:15; 36:12; 47:5: 76:13: 81:12, 21: 82:10. 17. 23: 83:3: 90:19. 22: 94:2. 7; 95:11; 98:5, 9; 105:23; 109:17, 20; 110:12; 119:15; 120:17; 121:25; 128:25; 129:8; 141:24; 150:24; 152:15, 22; 153:2; 157:12; 158:14; 160:16; 161:13, 17; 168:6: 169:16: 181:23: 183:19 21: 188:6: 190:15: 193:25; 194:9; 197:20, 25; 214:14, 19; 221:14; 223:21, 25; 228:4, 16; 229:6, 25; swept - 166:14 swollen - 162:16 sworn - 3:11, 13; 4:5; 230:23; 231:10; 234:22 Τ T's - 195:13 talks - 134:21

this

together - 46:11; 100:12;

took - 10:11; 39:24; 52:25;

55:18; 68:21; 71:19; 73:7;

74:13; 75:10; 76:4; 86:14;

24: 113:2: 117:19: 131:18:

198:18; 205:9; 224:20, 24;

132:5: 139:8: 180:16: 184:2:

87:9; 93:11; 97:2; 99:8; 101:8,

213:6

tole - 194:21

tone - 118:13

tool - 62:19

tools - 120:4, 13

53:8; 196:19

183:12

track - 55:20

traffic - 200:12

trained - 141:4

top - 102:10: 130:13

totally - 179:14; 191:20

totem - 127:7; 142:11

touch - 122:25: 123:16

tour - 31:5; 46:21; 47:6; 50:13;

tours - 47:25; 48:2; 196:17

towards - 26:5: 28:8: 51:17:

69:15; 89:4; 94:19; 95:20;

129:19; 159:3; 167:13; 168:5;

114:10: 115:24: 116:4;

tracks - 175:25: 191:22

tolerated - 87:21

101:12; 102:7; 108:8; 160:4;

target - 36:25; 215:11; 216:14 targeted - 158:16, 19 targets - 60:17 task - 63:6, 8, 12; 132:2; 139:2, 16, 23; 141:17; 142:3, 10, 13, 18-19, 25; 212:14; 213:20 taxed - 225:3 taxes - 224:11, 14 TCA - 21:11 tea - 174:16 team - 45:10; 79:15; 88:8; 101:11 technology - 17:17; 21:23 temptation - 103:13 tenure - 211:21 tenured - 141:21 terminated - 137:23; 227:16; 228:9, 23; 229:3, 24 terminology - 128:22 terms - 9:16; 15:25; 43:16; 109:10; 156:2 TERRANCE - 1:8 test - 227:2, 4 testified - 4:7; 12:20; 13:5, 7, 15; 14:25; 42:9; 88:20; 154:10 testify - 10:9; 15:6 testifying - 14:6 testimony - 13:13; 14:12, 23; 41:6; 55:4; 58:4; 76:15; 77:7; 79:13: 85:21: 86:8: 87:20: 99:17: 100:2: 101:19: 139:25: 140:2: 153:24: 197:10: 231:11: 234:3 text - 202:24; 203:4, 12 Text - 5:22; 232:19 THE - 7:19 24: 9:2 14: 11:10: 12:6, 11, 22; 13:16, 18; 16:9; 18:22, 25; 19:17; 21:5; 23:4,

tape - 193:12

20, 23; 24:24; 26:14; 27:7, 9, training - 26:12, 18; 210:14 17; 28:15; 29:18; 30:16, 19; transcript - 234:3 31:24; 32:7, 17; 33:14, 22; transfer - 80:15, 21: 95:5, 14: 44:4; 47:4, 11; 49:2, 23; 51:9; 97:14: 120:25: 147:14: 166:6 57:22; 76:11; 81:19, 23; transferred - 44:11; 56:19, 25; 90:21, 24; 93:16, 21, 25; 94:4; 57:24; 58:2; 61:3; 72:4; 87:13; 97:6; 105:22; 109:15; 110:9; 97:24; 103:19; 121:13; 136:9; 111:19: 112:13: 119:13: 139:11, 13, 16, 22; 140:12; 128:17; 129:7; 143:8; 148:13; 143:9; 167:21; 168:17 150:22; 151:2, 14; 152:13; transferring - 80:18 154:8; 157:20; 158:12; 160:18; 161:11; 168:5; 170:4; transition - 49:12; 103:25 181:22; 183:18, 20; 187:7; transitioning - 52:3 188:4; 193:24; 194:8; 197:18, treated - 59:14; 119:11; 21: 203:11: 208:16: 214:7, 13, 162:10; 169:5; 175:11, 18; 16, 23; 221:13; 223:18, 22; 214:11 227:23; 228:12, 19; 229:4; treating - 188:2 230:13.16 treatment - 177:2 theirs - 79:14 tremendous - 229:15 therapy - 195:5; 227:12 Trial - 1:19 thereafter - 42:21: 97:18 trial - 3:19; 15:13 therefore - 101:22 trials - 13:10 they've - 60:18 trick - 78:21; 79:11; 107:18; third - 113:18; 190:12; 192:21; 162:6, 12 204:16; 226:19 tried - 45:20; 60:4; 62:4; 65:5; third-party - 192:21; 204:16; 129:21, 24; 132:6; 166:11 trouble - 21:24; 22:2; 85:8; day - 230:23: 137:19; 164:15; 175:8; 176:11 234:22 troublemaker - 80:8 threatening - 104:10; 180:6; true - 231:11 229:11, 13 trust - 45:6, 12; 218:18 three - 155:7, 19; 158:4, 25; 187:14; 213:11 truth - 107:7, 23 truthful - 184:14 three-page - 213:11 try - 10:4; 18:16; 49:23; 88:18; threw - 162:14 175:20 throughout - 127:8 trying - 55:20; 56:14; 74:19; Thursday - 117:20, 23: 119:9: 80:20; 162:3; 173:19; 225:21 123:11 tighten - 170:17 turned - 60:12 time/sick - 173:12 turning - 102:9 timeframe - 29:16: 31:16 twice - 77:12 23-24; 32:15, 17; 39:15; 41:10; 43:23; 47:3; 69:2; 71:7, two - 15:22: 43:21: 49:21, 25: 22, 25; 72:14; 77:22; 160:17; 50:2; 58:20; 83:4; 98:9; 102:7; 162:24; 210:19 119:2; 155:2; 158:2; 172:13; 174:2; 190:23; 218:4; 228:2; timely - 220:22: 227:15 title - 21:21 type - 12:9, 15; 13:24; 65:11, today - 10:8; 12:21; 90:11; 13; 101:16; 107:5; 114:3; 171:4, 7, 16; 230:9 129:11, 17; 149:3; 196:25; today's - 81:11

U

199:2; 204:12

types - 20:12: 154:6

ultimate - 87:17 uncomfortable - 84:18; 94:15 undefined - 46:19 under - 8:20; 47:15; 54:9, 21; 56:4; 57:5; 58:9; 59:15, 23; 60:16, 21; 61:5; 63:23; 66:3; 67:6: 68:10: 71:15; 73:9; 79:18: 80:24: 86:5, 10-12: 88:10; 104:5, 19; 106:11; 125:15; 129:8; 133:20; 134:7; 137:24; 143:12; 148:11, 17; 155:22-24; 156:14; 160:24; 162:10; 163:5; 166:15; 178:15: 192:15: 217:11: 218:8; 224:9; 225:13; 227:17 understood - 7:12, 17, 23; uneasy - 70:3; 73:24; 80:13 unethical - 61:24 unfair - 174:17; 176:25; 192:6; 196:13; 207:17 unfairly - 59:14; 171:10; 175:18 unfairness - 195:9 unfit - 159:13 unfortunately - 80:6: 85:11: 141:6; 155:12; 206:16; 221:21, 24

uniform - 24:13 uniforms - 24:19 union - 200:21 unit - 24:11, 14: 25:11: 30:14, 18, 25; 31:8, 15; 32:8, 12; 33:19; 34:8; 36:5, 22; 37:15; 42:20; 44:19, 25; 45:20; 46:8; 48:22; 49:9, 18; 50:4, 7; 51:14, 19; 54:7, 11-12, 16; 55:23; 57:15; 58:10, 16, 21; 59:17, 21-22; 60:14; 61:7, 15; 62:15: 64:2: 67:6: 68:21: 70:3. 16, 18, 23; 71:21; 72:3; 83:20; 84:21; 87:13; 89:12; 92:19; 94:14, 19, 25; 95:6, 19-20; 101:18; 102:17, 22; 104:9; 116:23; 120:25; 121:18; 122:7; 124:23; 127:23; 128:8; 130:18; 131:23; 132:3, 7; 139:2. 7: 140:5: 143:19: 144:6: 145:4, 16: 146:16: 147:3; 160:25; 162:4; 211:13; 212:18, 21; 218:12; 219:2, 8-9, 19; 220:9; 221:22 unit's - 53:14 UNITED - 1:2 units - 24:8: 104:14: 128:9: 213:3 unlawful - 225:5 unless - 205:4 unlike - 46:9: 145:13 unnecessary - 102:13 unofficially - 132:8 unprofessional - 183:14 unsafe - 45:5 untouchable - 131:13; 176:6 untruth - 197:17 unusual - 58:5, 19 up - 9:23; 36:3, 20; 37:16: 38:11, 14; 41:8, 25; 57:11; 60:6; 63:9; 64:18, 21; 68:3; 70:8, 13; 84:6; 85:6; 86:7, 9, 15, 17; 87:10; 89:21; 95:25; 96:12; 103:21; 105:11, 15; 107:20; 113:19, 22; 119:23; 121:5; 125:17, 23; 127:9; 132:4, 8: 142:11, 19-20, 24; 150:7; 156:25; 157:16; 158:3, 10, 13; 162:7, 13, 22; 164:5, 9-10, 13; 165:17; 166:14, 19; 169:25; 170:3, 8, 11-14, 17, 19, 22, 25; 171:9; 173:3; 174:17; 175:23; 176:21; 177:16: 179:20: 180:2. 7: 182:13; 185:22; 188:9; 189:7, 11; 191:11, 21; 200:5; 206:14; 207:15; 209:17

upset - 40:3, 19, 41:2, 22; 43:9, 11; 108:4, 11; 139:3; 140:6, 11; 141:8; 145:5; 146:14; 174:7, 11, 15; 175:2; 176:22; 178:22; 198:5; 2001:6, 22; 201:2; 218:25; 219:7 usual - 40:4

ups - 85:17: 176:9: 195:9

utilize - 37:2; 125:19; 199:9 utilized - 202:20

٧

V-I-L-L-A-N-U-E-V-A - 203:10 vacation - 224:20, 24-25; 225:5, 10 vague - 117:17 Valhalla - 22:12 valuation - 197:18 value - 117:6 van - 202:7, 11, 17 varies - 18:12 various - 13:5, 20:12: 24:7:

47:23: 48:10

vehicle - 68:14; 72:22; 92:18, 20; 126:9; 148:8, 10, 17; 159:5; 164:18; 166:9, 14; 200:10; 202:19 vehicles - 73:2, 13, 16; 74:5; 92:17; 201:13, 17; 202:14; 220:23 vendor - 204:16 vendors - 113:23 vent - 223:6 verbal - 45:9; 170:13 verify - 98:24 VERNON - 1:8 Vernon - 1:17; 4:4; 7:4, 8; 18:7, 19, 25; 19:8; 22:18; 58:17; 67:18, 21: 79:19; 80:2; 85:11, 13: 127:12: 128:12: 134:12. 20; 173:22; 176:8; 190:13; 195:11, 24; 204:11, 15; 206:18; 207:9, 12; 208:14; 211:14, 16; 212:15; 220:24; 227:16 views - 46:2 Villaneuva - 203:6 Villanueva - 203:6 Villanueva's - 203:16 violation - 24:17

W

voice - 9:23; 117:18; 118:13;

40:17; 41:17, 20; 43:9; 70:6,

voiced - 35:19, 24; 37:18;

20; 89:15; 127:10; 150:5

voicemail - 174:5

voicing - 107:19

volunteer - 49:5

wait - 145;8; 224:19

waive - 151:12

waived - 3:10 walk - 22:3: 183:12 wall - 215:13 Walmart - 6:13; 233:3 wants - 68:9; 80:15; 85:8; 156:24; 157:2; 195:22; 222:19 war - 67:5: 131:4, 15; 133:3, 7, 11 warrant - 66:5, 14; 68:4; 69:6; 70:10: 72:22: 73:12: 111:10: 120:3, 14; 131:17, 24; 222:8 warrants - 72:21, 25; 92:16 watch - 73:11, 21; 106:11 watching - 40:10 waves - 126:18; 130:2; 150:8 ways - 12:25 we" - 45:14 weaknesses - 35:18; 37:13 week - 43:21; 174:2; 182:17 weekend - 155:14 weeks - 43:20: 107:2: 227:12 weightily - 128:10 Weis - 19:13: 21:16, 18 WESTCHESTER - 231:5 Westchester - 1:23; 22:12 WHEREOF - 231:16 whiskey - 122:23 white - 38:13: 58:12, 15, 18: 59:3; 63:3; 69:14, 17; 79:2; 114:12: 115:25: 117:2, 16: 118:2, 18; 119:11, 19, 21; 123:14; 131:5; 133:12, 14-15; 134:8, 25; 135:17; 137:11; 138:10, 12-13, 19, 25; 139:6; 141:21; 143:21; 144:24; 145:7. 25; 147:24: 149:2 155:11: 156:6, 9, 11, 19: 159:20: 164:4 9 13: 167:24: 169:5: 173:16: 179:22: 198:20: 216:4. 8

White - 1:24 whites - 133:4 whoever's - 171:10 whole - 108:14; 113:20; 162:6; 164:14; 179:9; 185:5 wife - 12:4 wife's - 11:9

Williams - 181:2; 182:6; 186:4, 17; 189:25 win - 88:19; 129:24

win - 88:19; 129:24 Wireless - 19:12 wish - 85:2; 185:13 withdrawn - 121:9

WITNESS - 7:19, 24; 9:2, 14; 11:10; 12:6, 11, 22; 13:16, 18; 16:9; 18:22, 25; 19:17; 21:5; 23:4, 20, 23; 24:24; 26:14; 27:7, 9, 17; 28:15; 29:18; 30:16, 19; 31:24; 32:7, 17; 33:14, 22; 44:4; 47:4, 11; 49:2, 23; 51:9; 57:22; 76:11; 81:19, 23; 90:21, 24; 93:16, 21, 25; 94:4; 97:6; 99:22; 105:22; 109:15; 110:9; 111:19; 112:13; 119:13; 128:17: 129:7: 143:8: 148:13: 150:22; 151:2, 14; 152:13; 154:8: 157:20: 158:12: 160:18: 161:11: 168:5: 170:4: 181:22; 183:18, 20; 187:7; 188:4; 193:24; 194:8; 197:18, 21; 203:7, 11; 208:16; 214:7, 13, 16, 23; 221:13; 223:18, 22; 227:23; 228:12, 19; 229:4;

witness - 14:7; 81:18; 92:11; 100:25; 116:9; 228:6; 231:10

230:13, 16; 231:16

witnessed - 85:19; 92:24; 93:4; 101:2; 106:14; 122:10; 168:15; 195:10

witnesses - 37:22 wondering - 82:14 word - 118:22; 183:5 words - 8:23; 67:22; 129:6; 168:25; 218:17

workers - 160:9; 161:8; 212:17 Workers' - 226:8 works - 80:10; 134:18; 135:13; 203:19

world - 223:7 worry - 146:25 worse - 78:16; 83:25; 96:6; 102:16, 24; 121:17

worth - 117:6; 119:7; 129:17 write - 35:22; 39:10; 40:12; 41:3; 70:15; 157:16; 158:3; 169:25; 170:12; 19, 22, 25; 174:17; 175:23; 180:7; 185:22; 207:15

writing - 97:20, 22, 25; 170:11 written - 38:23; 96:12; 158:10, 13; 170:3, 7, 14; 171:9; 173:3; 176:21; 177:16; 180:2; 188:4 wrote - 70:16; 120:23; 149:12; 197:5, 21

Wutte - 177:18

WUTTKE - 1:12 Wuttke - 7:8; 58:13; 59:25; 88:11; 137:16: 157:15, 21, 25; 158:19, 25; 160:9, 12, 14; 161:5; 162:4, 20, 163:5; 164:17; 166:8, 16; 167:15, 170:10; 171:10, 14, 24; 174:17; 177:12, 22; 178:9, 21; 179:3, 7, 21; 180:17; 184:10, 24: 189:4; 190:8; 192:4; 193:10, 15; 194:25; 195:16, 21-22; 196:13; 197:10; 198:4, 23; 200:6; 205:19-21, 23; 207:16; 214:17, 20

Wuttke's - 159:9; 191:8; 194:10; 199:25; 215:16 Υ

year - 16:19; 18:2, 5; 23:2; 86:11; 104:21; 178:12; 209:11; 218:10 years - 15:22; 106:22; 107:11; 158:2, 25 Yonkers - 103:15, 18 YORK - 1:2, 8; 231:4 York - 1:17, 21, 24; 2:8, 13; 4:4; 7:4; 103:18; 231:8 Young - 52:4, 6 yourself - 56:9; 202:24 yup - 116:24; 123:9; 150:13

Z

Zappone - 56:16, 18, 20, 23; 58:2 zero - 185:5

zones - 148:18